

April 1944

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CONSUMERS' RESEARCH

Bulletin



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CONSUMERS' RESEARCH



Vol. 13 • No. 4

BULLETIN

April 1944

Off the Editor's Chest

THE disposal of surplus property bought for war purposes in excess of the anticipated needs of the military and other government departments is a problem of outstanding importance, even before victory is in hand. It is anticipated that a large quantity of surplus goods and facilities will be for sale as soon as the European phase of the war is completed, and other large amounts will be thrown on the market when the war with Japan is ended.

The close of World War I was followed by notable scandals resulting from exorbitant profits and abuses in the sale of Army and Navy supplies and other goods. In order to forestall a similar situation, Congress is already working on plans to set up a system of distribution that will result in a more satisfactory handling of surplus items in quantities that are estimated to be about ten times as great as the "disposable surpluses" of the first World War. In addition to surplus commodities, there are also to be disposed of a major proportion of some 2500 government owned plants representing an overall investment of something like 16 billion dollars.

Some taxpayers may be surprised to learn that large quantities of material have already been offered to the industrial market. The publicity given recently to the contents of a Signal Corps Surplus Materials catalog in which many specialized military items and common articles of great usefulness to the consuming public in general were being offered to *industrial* bargain hunters engaged in war production was not widely featured in the journals

and magazines commonly read by the civilian-taxpayer public.

The Baruch demobilization program, which has been widely discussed in the press of late, presents a program for the disposal of surplus plants and commodities, in which a few sound general principles are set forth. It does not, for the most part, face the major issue in the whole situation, namely, *how* the goods shall be disposed of without interfering with private industry and investment and the resulting opportunities of factory and other workers for post-war employment. The Baruch proposal includes the suggestion that fair market prices shall be charged for the goods and that as much shall be sold as soon as possible "without unduly disrupting normal trade." The point is further made that pressure groups shall be listened to but that "action shall be in the national interest."

It is obvious that tremendous power will be lodged in the discretion of the persons who will have control of formulating basic policies in surplus properties disposal. The terms such as "fair market prices" and "without unduly disrupting normal trade" are open to wide differences of interpretation depending upon the individual concerned, whose views will be inevitably colored by his trade or industry connections and his philosophy or "ideology" as to what constitutes the "national interest."

The major safeguard of the public interest is one on which the Baruch report touches very lightly with its proposal that selling shall be carried on "with records open to public inspection." That

(Continued on page 12)

Scientific and Technical Experts and Editors: F. J. Schlink, R. Joyce, M. C. Phillips, A. R. Greenleaf, and Charles L. Bernier. **Editorial Assistant:** Mary F. Roberts.

Symbols used to indicate sources of data and bases of ratings: A—recommended on basis of quality; AA—regarded as worthy of highest recommendation; B—intermediate with respect to quality; C—not recommended on basis of quality; cr—information from Consumers' Research's own tests or investigations; 1, 2, 3—relative prices, 1 being low, 3 high. Note that price and quality are completely differentiated in CR's listings; a quality judgment is independent of price; 43, 44—year in which test was made or information obtained or organized by the staff of Consumers' Research.

It will be advantageous if you will, whenever possible, send prompt notice of change of address at least a month before it is to take effect, accompanying your notice with statement of your old address with name in full. At least three weeks' notice must be given in any case. This rule, however, regarding long advance notice does not apply to military personnel. Changes of address for men and women in the services will gladly be handled whenever required.

★ ★ ★ For a brief cumulative index of 1944 BULLETINS preceding this issue, see page 26.

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The Consumers' Observation Post

SPRING CLEANING is in season and since feather pillows must last for the duration, they should receive special attention. If care is used, they may be washed with soap and water according to directions given by Gladys Ward of the University of Illinois. Shift the feathers from their ticking to a muslin bag, which should be tied tightly. Dunk the bag and its contents up and down in warm soapy water, rinse thoroughly in clear warm water and hang out of doors to dry in the sun, or indoors before an electric fan. It is important to shake the feathers frequently while they are drying, to make them fluffy.

* * *

WOOLENS are expected to be plentiful. Our stockpile of wool is so large as to cause some concern in the trade. Cottons and rayons are in short supply so that it will be important to make last year's cotton garments do for another season. Already women are complaining about the high price (\$14.95) for good-looking cotton dresses. The situation promises to get no better in the near future.

* * *

BEEF TENDERLOIN, whence comes fillet mignon, is not available even to consumers who have the price and like that type of steak. It appears that the OPA restrictions make them obtainable only by hotels and restaurants. The official OPA explanation as reported in Meat Merchandising is that the OPA finds it so difficult to define trimmed beef tenderloins that it has been impossible to set a retail maximum price on them and consequently they are not to be sold by retail butchers. Let 'em eat sirloin is the OPA's attitude, no doubt.

* * *

POST-WAR APPLIANCES will not be very different from those made in 1941 except in price, according to a recent survey. Electrical appliances are expected to be slightly higher, major gas appliances from 10 percent to 25 percent higher, while radio sets will likely increase in price 30 percent to 40 percent above pre-war products. It is estimated that it will take from four to six months after the government agencies permit materials to become available for manufacture before ranges, refrigerators, and water heaters will be in dealers' hands.

* * *

TOUGH OLD ROOSTERS with dark tough stringy flesh can be made more tender and palatable for eating by a new discovery of a California professor of poultry husbandry. Briefly the method of producing this rejuvenation consists of inserting a pellet of fifteen to twenty milligrams of pure crystalline or powdered diethylstilbestrol under the skin of the bird some three to five weeks before he is marketed. No one has yet reported the effect on the consumer who eats the resulting product. We hope some other professor will give his attention to that important problem.

* * *

INFLATION and its dangers have been the big, black wolf about to pounce on Little Red Riding Hood Consumer, if we are to believe numerous government officials, economists, and lecturers. There is no doubt that a scarcity of consumers' goods and an abundance of money—in some hands—can create the elements for precipitating runaway inflation if such a situation is allowed to continue for too long a period, but the danger, it now appears, is passing. The numerous "cut-backs" in various plants working on war goods throughout the country, with resulting unemployment in certain sections, has had the effect

of drastically cutting down the free-spending money available for buying scarce articles in those sections. If reconversion of unused plant facilities to manufacture of needed consumers' goods could be speeded, the chief element tending toward an inflationary situation could be eliminated, too. According to one commentator with an inside tip, government economists are now beginning to worry about post-war deflation (prices too low, and goods with no buyers), so that the wolf hitherto the subject of their attention and propaganda is apparently no longer hanging around the door.

* * *

WINE made by American vintners has been promoted heavily during the past few years. The industry's advertising campaign has been rewarded by a substantial increase in consumer demand, which has been further stimulated by the shortage of whisky. Since large quantities of grapes have been diverted by the government from wine to raisins for military and lend-lease purposes, the wineries now fear that they will be unable to supply all that consumers will want to buy. American wines are said to have improved in recent years and the vintners hope to be able to hold their customers in spite of anticipated post-war competition of cheaper foreign wines.

* * *

WHEAT GROWERS who have raised too much wheat are still being prosecuted by the government in spite of the contradictory situation of a feared and expected wheat scarcity during the coming months because of the heavy demands on our supplies of grain for livestock feeding. Battling Tom Linder, Georgia's Commissioner of Agriculture, who reported a recent case of this nature, points out the absurdity of prosecuting American farmers for growing too much, while at the same time the government is entering into a world cartel scheme planned to permit unlimited wheat imports duty free from other parts of the world. It is not, in his opinion, the most effective way of assuring the continued production of farm crops and taking care of the interests of the American farmer. Consumers will be inclined to add, "nor of consumers, either."

* * *

TWO PANTS SUITS are an economy and restrictions on their manufacture should be eliminated, suggests a CR subscriber. At work, he wears trousers and vest and can easily wear out two pairs of trousers to one coat. Instead he is forced to buy a complete new suit, every time he needs a new pair of trousers. Now that the stocks of wool are plentiful, the present uneconomical practice of prohibiting the manufacture of suits with two pairs of pants should be discontinued. Like the cuffless trousers edict, it is doubtful if it ever effected the saving that its originators intended. No doubt it did help the clothing trade to sell more suits.

* * *

NEWLY WASHED CLOTHES should not be hung to dry in a papered room, for the resulting high humidity may cause parts of the wallpaper to become loosened. In washing woollens, be sure to avoid extremes of cold or heat. They should be dried in a warm room, if possible.

* * *

PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS of all sorts is being investigated by manufacturers who are looking for sidelines to take up their excess plant capacity developed by war production. If all who are exploring the possibilities go into production, the National Photographic Dealer estimates that there will be a photo store on every business corner in the country to sell the stuff. The magazine advocates a big aggressive photographic industry association to "preserve" and "protect" the industry. In ordinary language that usually means keeping prices high, and keeping competition to a minimum, by one means or another.

* * *

MAINTAINING A FRESH FLAVOR in coffee packed in sealed jars and cans depends primarily upon shutting moisture and air out of the package and not, as many suppose, upon sealing the original coffee flavor and aroma in. Inclusion of moisture in the package produces some degree of stale flavor, but the presence of oxygen and moisture caused rapid deterioration, according to recent research reported in one of the chemical journals. The most surprising result of the experiments was the discovery that coffee gone definitely stale (but not too old) could be freshened by exposing it to a stream of an inert gas for a number of days.

(The continuation of this section is on page 20)

The Home Garden

By WARREN B. MACK, PH.D., THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE COLLEGE



in 1944

THE question whether or not to have a home garden during the coming summer can be answered affirmatively without any reference to war shortages of foods, on which one man's guess is about as good as another's. If no war were in progress in 1944, it still would be a good idea for every family with reasonably ready access to suitable land to have a home garden.

The arguments in favor of a home garden are numerous, and the only one which might be advanced against it is that to some extent it may tend to impose an economic handicap upon the commercial vegetable grower, processor, and distributor. This, however, is a matter of only indirect concern to consumers.

The outstanding reason why home gardens are to be recommended is that vegetables from commercial sources are not adequate to meet the nutritional requirements of the population, either in quantity, edible quality, or content of nutrients. As to quantity, an estimate of the total requirement of vegetables per person annually, based on nutrient content of the vegetables as harvested, on the quantity and kinds of other foods that should be included in a diet of moderate cost, and on nutrient content of the diet recommended by the Food and Nutrition Board of the National Research Council, is approximately 512 pounds. The average annual consumption per capita, from 1937 to 1941, was 321 pounds. Greatest deficiencies in consumption were

in leafy, green, and yellow vegetables, of which the consumption was 60.7 pounds in comparison with 199 pounds as recommended, and in tomatoes, of which the consumption was 26.6 pounds, including fresh, canned, and juice, in comparison with 104 as recommended.

If income does not seriously limit the choice of foods, and the family can afford to substitute vegetables for a part of the cereals, which are a cheap source of energy, a considerably greater quantity of vegetables may be included in the dietary, as a rule.

Choosing the Kinds of Vegetables to Grow

Conditions which affect the choice of vegetables to grow include the character of the soil, the area available for gardening, the length of the growing season, the dietary requirements of the family, the supplies of foods, both vegetables and others, available from commercial sources, and the likes and dislikes of the members of the family. Anticipated supplies of insecticides and fungicides and opportunities to apply these also might influence one's choice of vegetables.








Soil. Lettuce, spinach, celery, onions, leeks, and endive require soils with high fertility and good physical condition. These vegetables grow slowly and their flavor and tenderness are impaired on heavy soils which are lacking in fertility and moisture-holding capacity. The root crops, cabbage, greens of the mustard family such as kale, collards, turnip greens,

and mustard, Swiss chard, New Zealand spinach, lima beans, peppers, and cucumbers likewise yield best and have finest edible quality on soils having high fertility, good depth, and friable structure, but they will tolerate somewhat less favorable conditions than the group named above. On the other hand, string and navy beans, peas, tomatoes, and sweet corn will yield satisfactory crops on a wide range of soils, including practically all on which tilled crops may be grown.

Size of Garden. To produce all of the vegetables needed by one person during a year, approximately 1/10 acre, or an area a little over 65 feet square is required, with average commercial yields. If a smaller area is available, some selection must be made among the vegetables to be grown. Two circumstances should influence the choice, in addition to family preferences: one is the yield of nutrients per unit of area, and the other, the relative availability from commercial sources. The leafy and the root crops, tomatoes, and winter squashes produce relatively great quantities of nutrient materials, particularly the nutrients which are most likely to be lacking in American diets.

Potatoes and sweet potatoes, while yielding very great amounts of food to the acre,

Table 1 - An Adequate Supply of Vegetables for Each Member of the Family, Estimated from Data of the Bureau of Home Economics on a Diet Which Would Meet the Recommendations of the Food and Nutrition Board of the National Research Council.

Family Member to Be Served from the Garden	Amounts of Vegetables in Major Groups Needed for a Year													
														
	Dry beans, Soy beans, Peas		Leafy and Green Vegetables		Yellow Vegetables (except Sweet Corn)		Potatoes and Sweet Potatoes		Tomatoes		Cabbage		Other Vegetables	
	Lb.	Ft. of Row	Lb.	Ft. of Row	Lb.	Ft. of Row	Lb.	Ft. of Row	Lb.	Ft. of Row	Lb.	Ft. of Row	Lb.	Ft. of Row
Average Man	33	640	122	270	60	128	182	440	130	144	52	55	104	175
Average Woman	16	310	156	345	60	128	156	375	130	144	52	55	90	135
Boy, 16-20 yrs.	33	640	138	305	70	149	234	575	130	144	52	55	165	248
Boy, 13-15 yrs.	16	310	138	305	70	149	182	440	117	128	52	55	150	225
Girl, 16-20 yrs.	13	250	143	315	60	128	130	300	104	113	52	55	120	180
Girl, 13-15 yrs.	16	310	143	315	60	128	156	375	104	113	39	42	90	135
Child, 10-12 yrs.	13	250	137	300	60	128	130	300	78	85	39	42	104	175
Child, 7-9 yrs.	10	195	122	270	60	128	104	250	78	85	33	36	90	135
Child, 4-6 yrs.	3	60	86	190	44	94	91	220	65	72	33	36	52	80
Child, 1-3 yrs.	0	0	69	150	35	75	65	160	52	56	33	36	35	55
Child, 9-12 mo.	0	0	52	115	26	55	52	125	40	44	0	0	15	23

supply energy (calories) as their chief dietary contribution, and this may be available conveniently from commercial sources, either of potatoes or of cereals. Moreover, a hill of winter squash requires such a large amount of space—12 by 12 feet—that small gardens will be limited in variety if a worthwhile quantity of this vegetable is planted.

Certain kinds of vegetables, while not producing an outstanding quantity of nutrients in a single crop, mature in a short time, so that several crops can be grown on the same space in the same season. Examples are snap beans, mustard and other spring greens and salads, radishes, and beets.

First choice in a small garden probably would go to tomatoes, greens, salads, carrots, snap beans, and onions for flavor and earliness. A larger garden would include beets, cabbage, broccoli, peppers, summer squash, and peas. With further increase in size of plot, sweet corn, cantaloupes, squashes, potatoes, lima, and dry beans would be added.

Length of Growing Season. The frost-free period varies widely in regions with a varied topography. In Pennsylvania agricultural regions, for example, the extremes in number of days between the average date of the last killing frost in the spring and that of the first in the fall are from approxi-

mately 80 to 210 days. Elevation, nature of the soil, and nearness to large bodies of water account for this wide range in length of growing season. Cool nights usually go with a relatively short growing season. Under these conditions, tender crops requiring a long season to mature cannot be grown successfully. Among crops of this description are lima beans, eggplants, sweet potatoes, melons, and late varieties of sweet corn and tomatoes. Relatively hardy, short-season crops include members of the mustard family, such as cabbage, kale, broccoli, cauliflower, etc.; onion; root crops, such as carrot, beet, radish, and turnip; lettuce, spinach, endive, and leek.

Table 2 - Row Arrangements and Planting Table for a 25 by 25 Foot Victory Garden.

For smaller gardens, a somewhat greater proportion of the space should be occupied by vegetables with high vitamin and mineral content; larger gardens may include a greater proportion of vegetables of which the chief value is their energy content. Your local Victory Garden Committee has plans for gardens of various sizes, based on nutritive values most needed by an average family.

Kind of Vegetable	Preferred Variety (2)	Distance between rows, inches (1)	Seed or plants required for row	Depth to sow seed, inches	Distance between plants in row, inches	Average yield
Onion Sets	Ebenezer	6	1/2 pint sets	1	3	—(3)
String Beans	Tendergreen	(Midway between onion rows)	1/4 pound	1	3	2 pecks
Onion Seed or Plants	Utah Valencia	15	75 plants	1	4	3 pecks
Leaf Lettuce	Grand Rapids or Black Seeded Simpson	15	1/20 ounce	1/2	8 (for full grown plants; closer for young lettuce)	—(3)
Late Cabbage	PennState Ballhead	(Midway between lettuce and mustard rows)	16 plants	Transplant	18	14 heads
{ Mustard Greens (1/2 row)	Fordhook or Evergreen	15	1/32 ounce	1/2	4	—(3)
{ Radish (1/2 row)	Scarlet Globe or White Icicle		1/10 ounce	1/2	2	—(3)
Beets	Crosby or Detroit	15				
	Dark Red	(Midway between beet & carrot rows)	1/4 ounce	3/4	3	1 peck
Kale	Dwarf Curled		1/4 ounce	1/2	12	—(3)
	Scotch					
Carrots	Red Core Chantenay or Nantes	15	1/8 ounce	1/2	2 - 3	1 peck
{ Cabbage	Golden Acre and Marion Market	24	16 plants	Transplant	18	14 heads
Interplant with Head Lettuce	White Boston		16 plants	Transplant	18	12 heads
Follow with Yellow Turnips	Golden Ball		1/16 ounce	1/2	3	1 peck
Swiss Chard 10'	Fordhook Giant	24	10 plants	3/4	12	—(3)
Parsley 3'	Moss Curled		9 plants	(4) Transplant	4	—(3)
Peppers 12'	California Wonder		6 plants	Transplant	24	1-1/4 pecks
Dwarf Peas { Double	Little Marvel or	24	1/2 pound for	1	2	2 pecks
Dwarf Peas { row	Thomas Laxton	6	2 rows			
Followed by String Beans (1 row)	Tendergreen or Round Pod Kidney		1/4 pound	1	3	1 peck
String Beans	Round Pod Kidney	30	1/4 pound	1	3	1 peck
Followed by Endive or Chinese Cabbage	Green Curled or Broad Leaf Chihli		36 plants	Transplant	8	32 heads
			1/4 ounce	1/2	12	20 heads
Edible Soy Beans	Bansei, Giant	30	1/4 pound	3/4	3	1 peck
	Green					
Lima Beans	Fordhook	30	1/4 pound	1	6	1 peck
Tomatoes, Staked	Rutgers	36	10 plants	Transplant	30	5 pecks
		15 to edge of garden				

(1) Allow 6 inches from edge of garden for vegetables requiring small space; 12 to 18 inches for larger kinds. The number shown in this column for each row is the distance from the row named just above it. Those marked midway between rows are later plantings.

(2) Other varieties may be satisfactory; ask your local Victory Garden Committee Chairman if preferred varieties are not available.

(3) Depends upon size at harvest.
(4) Number of plants for number of feet of row indicated in column 1.

As time of planting for different vegetables varies in different states, it is suggested that specific information on this be secured from your state experiment station.

Likes and Dislikes. Unless carried to excess, likes and dislikes should chiefly determine the selection of vegetables. If enough of any vegetable is eaten, it will make a significant contribution to the dietary, even if its content of vitamins and minerals is relatively low. To illustrate, potatoes, though having only a relatively low content of the vitamin, are a significant source of vitamin C in the American dietary, ranking well above any other vegetable except cabbage, because of the large quantity consumed. Parsley, on the other hand, though rich in vitamins and minerals, contributes practically nothing to our dietary be-

cause very little of it is eaten.

An Adequate Supply of Vegetables

Table 1 shows estimates of the vegetables needed to supply an adequate amount of nutrients for each member of the family, on the basis of recommended allowances of the Food and Nutrition Board of the National Research Council. The number of lineal feet of row was estimated from average commercial yields with the common row widths.

Table 2 shows row spacings and arrangements for a small garden with fairly good soil, such as many suburban residents would be able to grow.

Editor's Note.—In the second article on Home Gardening, Professor Mack will discuss: the problems of finding the best location for the garden; soil tests; use of lime, fertilizer, and organic matter; preparation of soil for planting; the planting of a garden; the time of planting; sources of vegetable seeds and plants; watering; cultivation; control of pests; the best time to harvest; and other topics. ¶The illustration of the earnest gardener in the title was adapted from a South Dakota Extension Service circular.

Grease-Spot Remover for Wallpaper

A HANDY material for removing grease spots from wallpaper is available in paste form under the name of *Blot-X* Wallpaper Grease Spot Remover. This is applied by a flexible knife or spatula to the spot, allowed to dry thoroughly, then brushed or wiped off with a clean brush or cloth.

It proved effective in removing spots of *Mazola* (corn oil), mineral oil, and hot oil or grease from ordinary wallpaper of light color.

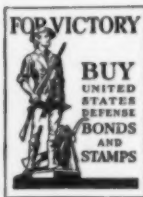
When the spot is removed, a ring sometimes remains, and this will require some little extra trouble to remove. A procedure recommended for removal of this ring (which might take an extra two minutes or so) is given on the jar.

While the product was found to be effective on new grease and oil spots, it may not give such a satisfactory result with spots that have been on a paper for a long time.

The usual material recommended in government pamphlets and other bulletins for doing the grease-removing job on wallpaper is a mixture of Fuller's earth and benzine or of Fuller's earth and carbon tetrachloride, or a mixture of the two volatile solvents, or other available grease solvent such as is used for cleaning spots

from garments. (Remember that carbon tetrachloride is very poisonous if inhaled, and benzine is besides highly flammable and explosive, so that it must not be used if there is smoking or a lighted stove, furnace, or burner of any sort in the room or in an adjoining room. Even the snapping of an electric light switch can ignite explosive fumes.)

One of the homemade mixtures described should work as well as the proprietary product, but it must be stored in a jar which is strictly vapor-tight, or in a short time, the volatile solvent will have disappeared and the product will have to be mixed again. The homemade mixtures are a little troublesome to prepare, so that most people will probably prefer to use the ready-made product even though the intrinsic value of its ingredients is, of course, very much less than the 35c charged.



**BUY STILL
MORE WAR
BONDS AND
STAMPS**

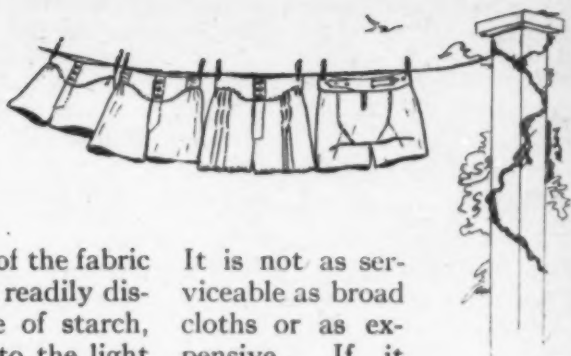
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Men's Shorts



"A PAIR of shorts or an undershirt of good quality will cost 75c or a dollar, and they are more loosely woven than in yesteryear. Storekeepers say they would charge \$10 per piece for silk underwear, if they had any." The trade journal which made the above report knew what it was talking about, for CR's most recent test disclosed that the cheapest pair of shorts worthy of an *A* recommendation sold for 69c plus postage. Contrasting this with the price of 35c paid for the best pair of shorts in a previous test, and as low as 25c paid for shorts of good or fair grade, consumers are evidently well advised to call into question the government's figures showing but small percentage increases in cost of goods bought by consumers, when such mundane, but essential, things as a pair of shorts, like shirts and some other staple items of apparel, cost practically twice as much as in previous times.

Comfort, durability, and appearance are the three major qualities upon which the selection of men's shorts should be based. To be comfortable, shorts should be cut full. When skimmed in cutting, they are not only uncomfortable, but also lack durability because of the extra strains to which they are subjected in wearing. Durability also depends in a large measure upon the quality of the fabric; loosely-woven fabrics, heavily starched or "dressed" to give them a good initial appearance, will not wear well.

Rubbing a portion of the fabric between the hands readily discloses the presence of starch, and holding it up to the light will give a fairly good idea of the weave.

Of the 21 samples tested by CR, only four basic types of cloth were found: broadcloth, Oxford cloth, print cloth, and knit fabric. Broadcloth is a term applied to a type of plain-woven fabric having about twice as many threads in the warp as in the filling. The best grades have a thread count of about 144 x 76 and are made of combed Egyptian or Pima long-staple cotton, often mercerized. They wear well and have a high lustre. The cheaper grades are made of carded yarns, shorter-staple cotton, lack the lustre of the better grades, and have fair to good wearing qualities. Jacquard stripe patterns in broadcloth give rise to floats (poorly supported yarns) which wear off readily; these should probably be avoided in undergarments, where they are subject to considerable friction. Oxford cloth, like broadcloth, has about twice as many threads in the warp as in the filling, but the warp yarns are laid in pairs. It is soft, loose, and cool, but, due to its somewhat loose construction, may not wear as well as broadcloth.

Print cloth is a basic type of cotton fabric having a plain weave with approximately equal numbers of threads in both directions, in general running from 48 x 48 to 80 x 80.

It is not as serviceable as broad cloths or as expensive. If it were not for the printed stripes, print cloth would be like ordinary or low-grade bed sheeting.

The ratings which follow are based on comfort, as determined by percentage shrinkage, size adjustments, cut, and characteristics of the fly opening. Durability was judged on the basis of the quality of the cloth, bursting strength, and the type of the waistband, and also on workmanship and ease of ironing, the latter being of considerable importance to the housewife who does her own washing and ironing.

It was found that the shrinkage values, whether the garment was marked "Sanforized" or not, were generally low. The knit garments, however, shrank in one direction and stretched in the other, a not uncommon behavior for this type of material. The garments ran the scale from "competitive" types of cheap and sleazy appearance to high-grade well-designed shorts. Skimpy cut and careless workmanship were generally found in the shorts made of the cheaper print cloths. The better class of garments all had sufficient slack in the seat, the wide "tulip" shaped rear panels predominating. All the shorts were provided with some means of adjustment of the waist line size, string ties, tongues and buttons or elastic (current limitations on elastic,

however, have made the use of this method less common than hitherto). Some of the shorts used the metal snap buttons ("Grippers") for the front fastening which were excellent. Limitations on their use, however, have made the use of ordinary buttons for this purpose much more common.

It was found that the cheap, thin garments were easier to iron than the better garments, probably because they dried faster. Those with the tongue and buttons method of waistband adjustment were found hardest to iron because they had to be unfastened for good ironing. The plain side ties pulled up folds of material and presented a poor appearance. Side ties in general tend to getropy in use and are very uncomfortable on the hips under a belt. The knit "athletic" shorts had the disadvantage that they could not be worn with square bottom undershirts without the undershirts' hanging out of the leg bottoms. Matching shirts are cut to a V point at the bottom, but unless the shorts are very high-waisted, these inevitably pull out at the sides of the waist. The V type undershirt is unsatisfactory, too, because it tends to twist or wad in the crotch. Because of such disadvantages, some persons do not like the "athletic" type of shorts and find them uncomfortable to wear; others express themselves as considering the "athletic" shorts very satisfactory. Unless otherwise noted, the front fastening of the cloth type of shorts consisted of three buttons and buttonholes.

Shorts Made of Woven Material

A. Recommended

Arrow, J336, Grad T (Cluett Pea-

body & Co., Inc., Troy, N.Y.) 85c. Oxford chambray, blue. Thread count: warp 92, filling 44. Tapes to be tied, inserted through holes in sides for waistband adjustment. Cut a trifle small. "Sanforized" cloth of exceptionally good quality, having no shrinkage. Very good workmanship. Very high bursting strength, best of samples tested. 2

Breex (Munsingwear, Inc., Minneapolis) 75c. Oxford cloth, tan. Thread count: warp 94, filling 42. Tapes to be tied, inserted through holes in sides for waistband adjustment. Unusual cut giving considerable freedom of movement, and of generally excellent workmanship. "Sanforized" cloth of good quality, having very little shrinkage. Ranked second in bursting strength, well above average. 2

Healthgard (Distributed by Montgomery Ward, Cat. No. 29-455) 69c plus postage. White broadcloth. Thread count: warp 140, filling 60. Elastic inserts in sides for waistband adjustment. Front fastening, three flat metal snap fasteners. Well cut and of excellent workmanship. Cloth of fairly good quality, having little shrinkage. Bursting strength about average. 2

Mansco, N 486 D (Manhattan Shirt Co., 444 Madison Ave., New York City 16) 75c. Blue broadcloth. Thread count: warp 104, filling 61. Elastic inserts in sides for waistband adjustment. Cut a trifle small. Good workmanship. Cloth of fairly good quality, some shrinkage. Bursting strength about average. 2

Pilgrim Nobility (Distributed by Sears, Roebuck & Co., Cat. No. 16-5187) \$1.31 plus postage. Woven stripe broadcloth, called "Madras" in catalog. Thread count: warp 97, filling 56. Tongues and six buttons at back for waistband adjustment. Front fastening, four buttons. Well cut and of excellent workmanship. "Sanforized" cloth of good quality, having little shrinkage. Bursting strength above average. 3

U. S. Army (This garment made by Utica Knitting Co., 93 Worth St., N.Y.C.) White broadcloth. Thread count: warp 140, filling 60. Tapes to be tied, inserted through holes in sides for waistband adjustment. Well cut and of excellent workmanship. Cloth of good quality, having no shrinkage. Bursting strength above average. Not available to civilians.

B. Intermediate

B. V. D. (BVD Co., 350 Fifth Ave., N.Y.C. 1) 55c. Printed broadcloth. Thread count: warp 80, filling 60. Elastic insert in back for waistband adjustment. Very good workmanship. "Sanforized" cloth of satisfactory quality and cut, having no shrinkage. Bursting strength about average. 2

B. V. D. (BVD Co.) 75c. White broadcloth. Thread count: warp 147, filling 57. Elastic insert in back for waistband adjustment. Front fastening, three flat metal snap fasteners. Well cut. Good workmanship. Shrinkage considerable (over 5% in leg length). Bursting strength below average. 2

Coopers, 5510 (Coopers, Inc., Kenosha, Wis.) 75c. Two samples tested, both Jacquard stripe broadcloth. Thread count: warp 117 and 102, filling 54 and 57. Elastic inserts in sides for waistband adjustment. Front fastening, three flat metal snap fasteners. Cut a trifle small. Excellent workmanship. Some shrinkage. Bursting strength somewhat below average. 2

Wilson Bros. Super Shorts, No. 8113F (Wilson Bros., 528 S. Wells St., Chicago) \$1. Woven stripe broadcloth. Thread count: warp 90, filling 55. Tongue and six buttons at back for waistband adjustment. Fairly well cut. Excellent workmanship. Cloth of fairly good quality, some shrinkage. Bursting strength about average. 3

C. Not Recommended

Manhattan Clix (Robert Reis & Co., 2 Park Ave., N.Y.C. 16) 50c. Print cloth. Thread count: warp 72, filling 57. Tapes to be tied, inserted through holes at sides for waistband adjustment. Front fastening, three flat metal snap fasteners. Cut and workmanship fair, but garment was under size. Bursting strength below average. 1

Manhattan Pyramid Seat (Robert Reis & Co.) 45c. Print cloth. Thread count: warp 70, filling 60. Tapes to be tied, inserted through holes in sides for waistband adjustment. Workmanship fair, but garment was under size. Some of the sewing very carelessly done. "Sanforized." Bursting strength below average. 1

Pilgrim (Distributed by Sears, Roebuck & Co., Cat. No. 16-5209) 36c plus postage. Print cloth. Thread count: warp 68, filling 57. Tapes

to be tied at sides, for waistband adjustment; no holes. Cut poor. Careless sewing. Cloth of poor quality. Bursting strength below average. 1

Wards (Montgomery Ward, Cat. No. 29-417) 29c plus postage. Print cloth. Thread count: warp 70, filling 60. Tapes to be tied at sides, for waistband adjustment; no holes. Cut and workmanship poor. Cloth of poor quality. Bursting strength below average. 1

Maskuline Gripper (Maskuline Underwear Co., Inc., 456 Fourth Ave., N.Y.C. 16) 50c. Print cloth. Thread count: warp 68, filling 62.

Elastic insert in back for waistband adjustment. Front fastening, three flat metal snap fasteners. Fairly well cut, no shrinkage. Workmanship good. Bursting strength below average, and lowest of all samples tested. 2

Shorts Made of Knit Fabric

B. Intermediate

Jockey (Coopers, Inc., Kenosha, Wis.) 60c. Rib knit, 28 x 32. Buttonless fly opening. Two buttons at side for single waistband adjustment,

which it was judged might be uncomfortable. Waistband shrinkage 3% (not excessive). Workmanship satisfactory. 2

C. Not Recommended

Reis Scandals (Robert Reis & Co., 2 Park Ave., New York 16, New York) 60c. Rib knit, 28 x 32. Buttonless fly opening. Elastic at back for waistband adjustment. Two samples tested showed different properties in shrinkage, also differences in original dimensions, indicating lack of close control of manufacturing operations. Leg closure seams poorly made. 2

Camera Sizes for Today's Film Market

VERY FEW new cameras are available any more. For the most part, stores in big cities have only a few second-hand ones left, and as to these, New York dealers seem to have by far the largest stocks.

For those who are able to pick up a good used camera of the popular roll-film type in a pawnshop or secondhand store, it is worth while to consider the size of roll film which the camera takes. The best buy, perhaps, from the standpoint of availability of film in the present conditions of very limited supplies, is a camera which takes the No. 120 film (2¼

inches x 3¼ inches, also in wide use for 2¼ inches x 2¼ inches and 1⅝ inches x 2¼ inches) with No. 620 (for the same sizes) and No. 116 and No. 616 (both 2½ inches x 4¼ inches) next. Cameras using a 35 millimeter film are, of course, a possibility, although few of these which are much good can be bought in the present market. The 35 mm. film itself is fairly easily obtainable at this time, a condition which results from the practice of cutting into short pieces film strips which contain defects of coating that preclude their use in the full 1000-foot length. Since

a good deal of the 35 mm. motion-picture film is found upon inspection to be imperfect, the practice of cutting up the film in this way makes available a considerable amount of short-length 35 mm. film for still cameras. The film in long lengths, for example, may have been improperly slit, so that it is "sweepy" or it may have slightly irregular perforations or other defects. However, it will run well enough in the short 5½-foot lengths, and if it doesn't, very likely the manufacturer or dealer will assure you that the fault is with your camera.

Useful Booklet on Appliances

A handy booklet on electrical appliances and how to care for them, known as the "Two-in-One Book," or the "Electrical Handbook for the Mr. and the Mrs." can be had upon request addressed to The Electrical League of Cleveland, 18th Floor Midland Building, 101 West Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, accompanied by 10c to cover mailing and

handling charges. Held in one direction, this booklet is read to give information in the form in which it is especially useful to the housewife regarding the care and use of the refrigerator, range, waffle baker, toaster, mixer, washing machine, electric iron, etc. Turned upside down and read, again from left

to right, it gives more explicit and mechanically detailed information on some of the same appliances, and some additional ones, written from the point of view of the *man* of the house. This booklet would be quite useful to the men and women of the home; teachers of home economics and vocational subjects would find it of much interest and value also.

Off the Editor's Chest

(Continued from page 2)

is a poor substitute for conducting the enormous transactions involved, strictly in the open, in what the late General Johnson was wont to refer to as "the gold-fish bowl." A few people have the time and money to travel to Washington to consult the public records; most people, very obviously, do not.

It is asserted that an important element of the Baruch plan is to "close the books on the war" and get the government out of business as soon as possible, so that the control of production may be returned to American industry. That is undoubtedly a sound idea which will make for speedy resumption of a large flow of the customary consumer commodities. To accomplish this aim quickly and effectively, the consumer will likely fare better, all things considered, if the major responsibility for establishing policies for carrying out the demobilization of goods and industries rests with the Congress. There is less likelihood that the policies and actual sales will be carried on in ways hidden from the full light of publicity. A part of the constant and daily debate recorded in the Congressional Record always finds its way into the daily newspapers and news magazines, supplemented by interviews with the persons concerned, and the public will thus not need to rely on parsimonious news handouts from some government agency engaged in an operation which it feels the public should be told as little about as possible, "in the national interest."

The basic safeguard of the taxpayers' stake in the whole tremendous and costly enterprise, which has not hitherto been proposed, would be a mandatory provision that each item sold above a certain minimum value of, say 25c or 50c, shall be clearly tagged or labeled, or identified in relation to a printed schedule avail-

able at the point of sale, in such fashion that any purchaser can tell *what the article cost the government* (including necessary transportation and inspection costs), *what price was paid by the merchant buying it for resale*, and *what is the selling price to the ultimate consumer*. An equally essential piece of information which should by regulation be included in advertising of any surplus article or appliance, is a statement of whether it is a *new* or *used* government surplus item.

The provision in the Baruch report that there shall be no selling through speculators is almost meaningless, since everyone who "buys cheap" in the expectation of "selling dear" in this field (and most of the goods will be disposed of on that basis) will be a speculator in fact, whether so identified formally or not. (Business concerns are being set up to act as brokers or agents, and are already offering their services in buying and reselling government surplus goods.)

The clear and plain marking of government surpluses with the two cost prices and the resale price to the consumer is of basic importance. The public will thereby learn how much waste there is in government buying and selling and at the same time discover the extremely low prime cost of the manufacture of even the most complex articles when they are made in huge lots by skilfully engineered American mass production methods. The educational value of learning, for instance, that a complicated mechanism such as a radio set or a typewriter that normally would sell for \$50 at retail may have cost less than \$8 or \$10 to produce will be very useful. For obvious reasons there will be many who will oppose the suggestion of telling the truth about the costs and prices involved.

It should be pointed out further in support of the plan proposed that its execution will be of great value as a check on the surplus-goods officials, who will be under tremendous temptation and pressure to favor particular groups and interests, in and out of government. The shading of a price by a fraction of a cent per unit, for example, may mean enormous extra profits to those who have an "inside track" in buying, and graft to an official "willing to play ball." The open marking of costs and resale price will also serve to increase to a considerable extent the sense of care and responsibility that must characterize the acts of the surplus-goods administrators and their staff. The bureaucrat whose dealings are not continually exposed to public view and criticism may assume that he has "protected" American labor and manufacturers on a particularly difficult item if he has *given it away* abroad, on the theory, already being heard in official quarters, that the expense burden imposed on American consumers and taxpayers by that process is a comparatively unimportant matter.

The publicity which should surround the whole process of the disposal of government surpluses should, of course, be complete and detailed with respect not only to the goods sold, but also to the exact amounts and kinds of goods that are "dumped" or given away or "lend-leased" in European or Asiatic markets. Such information will assure taxpayers that they are not pouring their tax money into a bottomless well, but that a fraction, at least, of what has been expended is being returned to lighten the burden of those who made the contribution to the Treasury in the first place, and not being disbursed to those who have been on the receiving end of the business right along.

Pomades for the Lips

By ERWIN DI CYAN, PH.D.



AMONG COSMETICS, there are agents which are used for purposes of *protection against the elements*, so that the natural condition of the part of the body to which they are applied does not suffer from the inclemency of weather. Hand lotions represent cosmetics in that class, for they are designed to prevent chapping, as well as to alleviate it. Lip pomades are intended to serve a similar function. They differ from lipsticks, for the latter are used to enhance the appearance of the lips in giving them color and otherwise improving their appearance. Lip pomades serve principally to *protect* the lips against cold and wind; if the elements have already chapped the lips, lip pomades should aid in alleviating attendant discomforts, cracks, and roughness.

Traditional Lip Protectives

Substances other than lip pomades have been used for this purpose of lip protection. Spirit of camphor is a traditional application for chapping and fever sores and is still used by some for that purpose. Spirit of camphor is a 10 percent solution of camphor in alcohol, and the basic idea in using it was to leave a thin protective coating of camphor on the lips after the alcohol has evaporated. This remedy is however worse than none, for the alcohol entering the fissures of chapped lips burns and irritates; the coating of camphor that is left is of little or no

value, for that portion which does not flake off tastes badly.

Compound tincture of benzoin, which is an equally old remedy, is only a little better, for it is also highly alcoholic. The film remaining after the evaporation of the alcohol is however more elastic, thus protective, but that film is a dark brown color and thus unsightly.

Flexible collodion makes a good and really protective film which is however so smooth that it gives the feeling of having a foreign substance on the lips and contrary to the implication of its name, does not make a film elastic enough to accommodate the relatively great elasticity of the lips. The vehicle of flexible collodion is a mixture of ether and alcohol which causes the same initial burning of the lips as spirit of camphor and compound tincture of benzoin.

What Pomades Are Made of

Lip pomades are made principally of mineral waxes such as paraffin mixed with petrolatum or vaseline in an amount to produce a proper consistency, so that the final product may be moulded as a stick and easily applied to the lips. Perfume and sometimes color are added, so that the stick of lip pomade may partly take the place of a lipstick. Nearly all of the lip pomades on the market have the composition just described, and very few now contain the organic fats and waxes that may turn rancid

LIP pomades are not reserved exclusively for feminine use. Members of the Armed Services also are reported to find them effective for wind-chapped and sun-burned lips. Since many of the pomades come in rose as well as white, however, soldiers and sailors will want to inspect the particular brand offered before buying. They will then avoid the considerable embarrassment experienced by a Maryland chap last year who hastily bought a stick and applied it on the way to the movies. There he found himself to be the center of great interest which he was unable to account for until at a restaurant afterward he used his napkin and discovered a bright stain on his lips.

and so serve rather to irritate the lips than protect them. Furthermore, organic fats are more easily absorbed, while inorganic fats like petrolatum are not absorbed, thus offering better protection.

A good lip pomade should contain nothing more than paraffin and petrolatum for adequate protection; a slight amount of perfume or color, or even flavor, does not militate against its usefulness. Simple petrolatum or vaseline is unsuitable because it is too greasy, lanolin is too sticky, and cocoa butter, which melts

too readily, offers no protection. The container in which a lip pomade is packed should of course not be made of a poisonous substance like lead that may be absorbed into the pomade and carried to the lips.

A good lip pomade should meet all of the following requirements:

1. It should be easy to apply, and not too hard and not too "smeary."
2. The coating on the lips should be relatively persistent. This will require renewal after a hot drink but it should not be necessary to renew it more than three or four times in the course of a full day.
3. It should not become rancid.
4. The film should be elastic enough that when a coating is applied to the lips it will not crack.
5. It should be preferably tasteless, or at most have only the bland taste of paraffin, or a very mild, almost imperceptible flavor. Lip pomades containing camphor may become unpleasant with repeated use, due to the continuous medicinal taste on the lips.
6. The pomade should be only mildly perfumed, if at all.

Seven lip pomades were tested with these criteria in mind. On the whole, they were generally satisfactory except as noted in the listings. In no instance were the containers composed of lead, which as has been noted might cause injury to the user, but in three cases they were inconvenient to use. These difficulties arose no doubt from the restrictions on the use of metal and the necessary substitution of paper board. Some

brands had the propel and repel feature (found on lipsticks) which made the pomade easy to use and allowed for no waste; waste occurs if too much of the stick is pushed out and cannot be pushed back.

None of the lip pomades examined cracked when tested for elasticity. All of them were slightly felt on the teeth soon after the application of a coating to the lips. This unctuous feeling of the lip pomade on the *teeth*, may be considered by some as an objectionable feature in the use of lip pomades. (Because of a difference in the base, lipsticks are not known to give this sensation.) Color in a lip pomade is of secondary importance, but when present it was light enough and not too distinctive to be objectionable. It is a fact, and one not easily explained, that the colored varieties were a little more difficult to apply than the same brands in white. *Vaseline Lip Ice* (large size) is rated *A. Recommended*, although it was 10 percent under the declared weight. Lip pomades as well as lipsticks often sweat, shrink, or lose weight; and as the weight loss is not too great, it can perhaps be considered as an unintended or unavoidable deficiency. Prices are given exclusive of the 10 percent excise tax on cosmetics.

A. Recommended

- Edna Wallace Hopper's Lip Pomade* (Distributed by Affiliated Prod. Co., Inc., Jersey City, N.J.) 3.8 gm., 10c. White or rose. Stick firm but spread easily. Perfumed. Paper-board case had propel and repel feature and was easy to use. 1
- Bell's Lip Pomade* (Bell Chemical Co., 433 W. 59 St., Chicago 21, Ill.) 4.8 gm., 35c. White. Stick spread easily, had tenacity, and was not smeary. Almost tasteless. Plastic case but stick not very easily pushed back if pushed out too far. 2

Roger & Gallet Lip Pomade (Roger & Gallet, 337 W. 27 St., New York 1, New York) 3.3 gm., 25c. White or rose. Stick softer than *Hopper's* but spread easily and was not smeary. Taste, mild and pleasant. Paper-board case was easily used. 2

Vaseline Lip Ice (Chesebrough Mfg. Co., 17 State St., New York 4, New York) 2.7 gm., 25c. Labeled to contain 3 gm. but was found to contain 2.7 gm. Rose. Labeled as containing camphor but did not have an objectionable taste. Characteristic bland taste of vaseline. Stick firm but spread easily. Metal case had propel and repel feature and was easy to use. 3

B. Intermediate

Fleet's Chap Stick (Chap Stick Co., Lynchburg, Va.) 7.4 gm., 25c. Slightly tinted but may be considered white. Stick relatively soft but spread easily and had excellent tenacity. Metal container, easy to use. *Intermediate* rating given because of medicinal taste due to presence of camphor, volatile oils, and a fixed oil probably castor or cottonseed oil. 1

Hind's Stick for Chapped Lips (Distributed by Lehn & Fink Corp., Bloomfield, N. J.) 4.7 gm., 10c. White. Stick relatively soft, spread easily, had tenacity but was not smeary. Almost tasteless. *Intermediate* rating given because the paper-board container was difficult to work. 1

Vaseline Lip Ice (Distributed by Chesebrough Mfg. Co.) 1.1 gm., 10c. White. Labeled as containing camphor but did not have an objectionable taste. Characteristic bland taste of vaseline. Apparently identical in composition with the larger size listed under *A. Recommended*, except for color. Stick was very soft and although it spread easily its feel remained unctuous. Plastic case. *Intermediate* rating given because container was not easy to use. 3

C. Not Recommended

All of the following are not recommended, for reasons given in the text of the article.

Spirit of Camphor
Compound Tincture of Benzoin
Flexible Collodion
Cocoa Butter

Home Preservation of Eggs—

When They Are Plentiful



IN these times when nearly every day seems to bring a dire prediction of some government official or other that a drastic shortage of an important food will shortly be upon us, consumers who are concerned for the health and welfare of their families are giving much thought to ways and means of providing their own food supplies, or augmenting supplies which have been limited by wartime conditions. Having dealt with and mastered the problem of raising vegetables and canning them, many are now ready to explore other problems of food storage and preservation.

Every poultry raiser knows that along about March and April the hens start laying better, eggs are more abundant, and their price comes down. At such times the farm housewife usually has "laid down" a goodly supply. Many a farm-born city dweller this past year when eggs were difficult to obtain in big city markets must have thought longingly of the ample reserves of the prudent rural homemaker.

RIGHT now eggs are quite plentiful. One reason for the egg scarcity last year was the tremendous quantity of eggs that was reserved for egg-drying plants which held large government contracts for dried whole eggs scheduled for lend-lease shipment. Government stocks of dried whole eggs are still large even though last fall the War Food Administration offered two million pounds for

sale to commercial users. Men in the Armed Forces will tell you that one of the things they want to eat when they get back is *whole* fried eggs; they want no more scrambled dried eggs. The government has reportedly dropped plans for shipping abroad the large quantities originally planned for such distributions because, no matter how nourishing dried eggs may be from the standpoint of the scientific nutritionists, consumers who can help it apparently just won't eat home concoctions made from dried eggs. More whole eggs will, therefore, likely be available for consumers generally.

ALL this is by way of saying that persons who live in city apartments and have no facilities for storing eggs need not lay plans to rent a corner of some farmer's cellar. Unless some new and unforeseen difficulty arises, the eggs that are needed will be available. Those consumers, however, who have a cool storage space and a surplus of eggs or who live near a source of ample supply of first-quality, clean, fresh eggs may wish to try their hand at preserving some when prices are at their lowest. Last June, for example, eggs could be purchased at 25 cents a dozen and put down in water glass to be used, particularly for baking, in November and December when eggs were 60 cents or more a dozen, and hard to get, at that.

The most satisfactory and easiest method for home storage

of eggs is preserving them in lime water or in water glass (a solution of sodium silicate). Some experimentation has been done on home freezing for storage in home-freezers or freezer lockers, but this method is probably not as yet a practicable one for the beginner to use successfully.

The procedure is substantially that of the commercial packers who process frozen eggs for the food industry, particularly the mayonnaise and noodle manufacturers. Eggs are broken into a receptacle and thoroughly mixed, then poured into trays fitted with grids each of which is equivalent to a medium size egg. Some study has been given to the problem of facilitating the removal of the frozen mixture from the trays, and two researchers from the Michigan Experiment Station developed a system of lining the trays with pliofilm or cellophane and also coating the grids with a thin film of ice. The freezing trays or compartments may then be filled and frozen in the freezer unit. The frozen egg cubes are easily removed from the trays by leaving them at room temperature for a short time and may then be stored in the freezer locker by wrapping them in cellophane and sealing with "Scotch tape." The desired number of cubes may later be withdrawn for use without disturbing the remainder.

Freezing the yolks and the

whites separately is more difficult. The whites must be thoroughly mixed to secure a homogeneous mass. The yolks require the addition of salt, sugar, glycerin or some proprietary product as a stabilizer (glycerin, a needed wartime material, has not been generally available for consumers' use). The desirability from the health standpoint, of the consumption of glycerin or proprietary stabilizing materials in foods is not at all certain.

THE two practical means of making available at low cost when market prices are high eggs that can be used by the average family with reasonably good storage facilities are therefore the lime-water or the water-glass methods. In both of these methods, the preservation of the egg is achieved by clogging the pores of the shell with a solution which does not react unfavorably with the egg contents, which prevents evaporation of moisture from the egg white and which prevents germs and molds from entering the shell. The eggs to be preserved should be fresh and clean and whole, with no cracks of any kind in the shell. The lime-water and water-glass methods each have their own adherents. The Agricultural Extension Service of the University of Arizona, for example, favors the use of lime water, with directions as follows:

1. Boil five gallons of water (in a large vessel) and allow it to cool.
2. Add two to three pounds of unslaked lime (purchasable at some feed stores or coal and lumber yards) and allow it to stand until the solid matter has settled out.
3. Place the desired number of clean fresh eggs in a clean earthenware crock or jar.
4. Pour the clear lime-water over the eggs, being sure that the top

layer is covered to a depth of at least two inches.

5. Set the container in a cool place.

The Manitoba (Canada) Agricultural College suggests that putting six or eight inches of the solution into the crock before adding the eggs may help to prevent cracking any of the eggs to be stored. Melting about four ounces of paraffin and pouring it on the top of the jar when it is full is recommended to prevent rapid evaporation.

This addition may not be necessary where the storage place is damp or cool, as in a basement or root cellar, but there should be a wooden, metal, or earthenware lid over the jar to keep out dirt and to slow down air circulation. Such a cover will greatly reduce the evaporation loss.

Eggs so preserved will keep for eight to ten months if properly handled. The source just quoted considers the lime-water method preferable on the ground that the yolks and whites of the eggs will be firmer than those of eggs preserved by water glass. Criticism is made of the water-glass method that yolks often settle to one side and stick to the shells, breaking when opened so that the eggs have to be scrambled or otherwise used as mixed yolks and whites. The Manitoba authority also considers that the whites of water-glass eggs are thin and watery so that it is difficult to fry or poach them attractively.

THE water-glass method of preservation has its followers, too, and it is somewhat simpler to carry out. Directions as given by the Extension Department of Mississippi State College call for an earthenware crock, a wooden spoon, a

container of water glass, and a sufficient quantity of boiled water. The size of the crock depends on how many eggs are to be stored. If you wish to experiment before storing any large quantity, it will be best to start with the two-gallon or three-gallon crocks, which hold five or six dozen eggs. The five-gallon jars hold from twelve to fourteen dozen small or medium eggs.

1. Boil 10 quarts of water and allow it to cool.
2. Be sure the crock is clean.
3. Sterilize the wooden spoon with boiling water.
4. Mix the water glass with the cooled boiled water in the crock, in the proportion of one quart of water glass to ten quarts of water. Usually the can in which the water glass (obtainable at the drugstore, hardware store, or general merchandise store) is sold will give directions for the proper proportions of water and water glass. These directions may be considered reliable for that particular make of water-glass solution.
5. Using the wooden spoon, place the eggs in the solution in the crock, one at a time, taking great care not to crack them. Eggs that are cracked will spoil and may cause the spoilage of all the eggs in the jar.
6. Eggs may be added from time to time if it is impossible to put down the whole lot at one time. The jar should always have about two inches of liquid at the top, above the top layer of eggs. As evaporation occurs, a fresh supply of solution may be added from time to time to keep the liquid layer about two inches deep. Often there may be a surplus left from the original mixing of the solution which may be stored in the empty water-glass can for just this purpose. If storage is in a room where the air is dry, it is best to keep the jar covered as snugly as possible in the manner already mentioned in the discussion of the lime-water method. A cover is desirable in any case where there is any possible danger of anything falling in on top of the eggs.
7. Store in a cool dark place. It will

be understood, of course, that neither type of solution should be reused, for putting up a second batch of eggs.

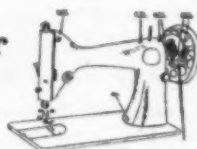
Eggs stored in this fashion will keep for eight to ten months. They may be used as a substitute for fresh eggs although they are not fully satisfactory for boiling. Usually the whites may be whipped for meringue, but it should be kept in mind that sometimes the yolk sticks to the shell and breaks so that it is necessary on occasion to break more eggs than needed to secure the required num-

ber of whites. The whites, as mentioned earlier, will be a bit thin for frying after the eggs have been stored for quite a time, but this objection is diminished if the eggs can be cooked in greased muffin tins or custard cups either in the oven or over a pan of hot water.

EGGs have been so abundant the past month or two that prices have come down considerably, and the thrifty housewife may well consider the matter of preserving some to be

used when the season of scarcity and higher prices sets in. There are some suggestions that the low prices for eggs, as against the high cost of feed and the difficulty of obtaining it under war-food-administration orders, will force farmers and poultrymen to reduce their flocks. In that event, eggs may be scarce next fall. The imposition of various controls, oft-times conflicting, has brought it about that on various items our food-supply situation seems to alternate between feast and famine.

Correct Oiling of Home Appliances



OVERENTHUSIASTIC oiling does a good deal of harm to household motors on washing machines and other appliances. Where oil cups or oil holes are provided, several *drops*—not several squirts—should be put in the oil holes. Regular oiling is important. Two or three drops of oil once a month may, in the case of a small motor, be what is needed rather than 15 or 20 drops every six months. Some vacuum cleaner motors require frequent lubrication because of their small oil storage capacity (2 or 3 drops after each 10 hours of operation). Most washing ma-

chine, ironing machine, grinder, churn, and drill-press motors, unless they are of a special "oil-less bearing" type also require fairly frequent lubrication, but for a motor not in frequent use, 6 to 10 drops every



two or three months will serve. As much harm can be done by overfrequent oiling, as by excessive use of oil on each occasion. A motor that is to be operated where the temperature may drop below 30°F, as on outside well-pumps and

other farm units, requires an oil that has been specifically treated for use in cold weather—one of the "W" oils such as 10W. (Fortunately, the same "W" oil can be used in warm weather.) Farmers and householders with a hobby shop or other equipment employing several motors would find it worth while to get the Cornell Bulletin 600 (War Emergency Bulletin 101) on Oiling Electric Motors, published by the New York State College of Agriculture at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. (Free to residents of New York State; 5c to out-of-state residents.)

Corrections and Emendations to Consumers' Research Bulletin

Washing Machines
Col. 370
ACB '42-'43

The address of the Appliance Service Co. is now 909 Liberty Ave., Pittsburgh 22.

Choosing a Camera
for Beginners
Page 14, Col. 3
May '43

The price of the Technical Manual on Basic Photography has been increased by the office of the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D. C., from 35c to 50c.

Hand Soaps and
Protective Creams
Page 7, Col. 2
January '44

Due to incomplete information furnished by the manufacturer, the postpaid prices for *Practi-Kreme* and *Prack Waterproof Formulae 33* are correct only for shipments up to the second parcel post zone (approximately 150 miles). Purchasers are required to pay postage for shipments to destinations beyond the second zone.

So-Called Plastic Paint

RECENTLY CR has received a number of requests for information on several brands of paint of a peculiar and novel type, advertised as "plastic paint." The reason for this interest lies in the extreme nature of the claims for these new products made in the manufacturer's advertising literature. To a person not familiar with the types and limitations of paints, *Insul-mastic's* claim that its product is equal to 20 coats of paint that will resist winds, weather, rust and rot, sticks like glue, and wears like iron, sounds just like what the human race has been waiting for, in the way of a paint coating. Another brand, *Cello-Plastic*, is a shade more modest perhaps, claiming that one coat of *Cello-Plastic* (exterior) is equivalent to five coats of ordinary paint, and that it is fade-proof, weather-proof, water-resistant, has high insulation value and covers all surfaces—even old weather-beaten wood—in one coat. Other brands, such as *Hollywood Plastic*, claim to be "strongly resistant to acid" and better than paint because it will outlast it. The advertising claims, upon casual reading, are very attractive and persuasive and are cleverly written to give them the appearance of claiming more than they actually do when read with care and a coldly analytical eye. For example, the claim of high insulating value is extremely misleading. The plastic paint *may* very well have a relatively high insulating value compared with ordinary paint, but, as ordinary paint has practically no insulating value, and is not relied

on for reducing heat losses from a house, the plastic paint *could* have a *relatively* high insulation value; yet the property would be of strictly negligible significance to consumers.

Price comparisons, too, are misleading. The price per gallon of one brand of the product is said to be only slightly more than that of good quality exterior paint, but no figures are given on its spreading power (square feet covered per gallon), which is the basis upon which any valid comparison of the costs of ordinary paint with paints of an unusual type or consistency must be made. If the claims of giving a coat several times thicker than ordinary paint are truthful, obviously spreading power of the plastic paint must be but a fraction of that of ordinary paint and its cost to cover a given area several times as great. Another claim that it will last for years is likewise meaningless, for ordinary paint, even if not of the best grade, can truthfully claim this same property when conditions are favorable.

CR has made no tests of these paints, for there would be no point in spending time and money on such a test; even if tests should be made and substantiate the manufacturers' claims (which is most unlikely), so-called plastic paints would not be recommended as house paints for several reasons. Paints of the good old-fashioned sorts made by the best makers are known to be very satisfactory by virtue of the fact that they have been time-tested in actual use or on

test fences for several years. The performance of such paint is *known*, and regularly and continuously being tested under scientifically controlled conditions. Such paints, moreover, are made by firms that regularly carry on research work under competent scientific direction. No such data are available or likely to be available for some years on plastic paints, for there is no shortcut laboratory method that can give a reliable prediction of the performance of a paint to be exposed for a long time to the action of the weather in diverse climates.

The claim of one of the brands of being equivalent in thickness to 20 coats of paint also should probably be regarded as a disadvantage rather than an advantage, for experience with paints has shown that coatings of such excessive thickness usually prove short-lived and fail in a very unsightly manner. One of the most important considerations is that when painting a house, the cost of the paint is only a small proportion of the total cost, much the larger proportion being the cost of labor. It would therefore seem to us extremely unwise to use any paint about which little or nothing is known as to its life, adherent properties or other important qualities. Further, if the product were satisfactory as to life and adhering properties, it might be very unsatisfactory in one respect which is fundamental to all good paints,—that is, it might not be possible to paint over it satisfactorily later, which could make repainting extremely difficult and probably very costly. This

factor of repaintability is one which we have discussed in various BULLETINS covering paints for the house, and it is a fundamental factor in all questions of paint selection.

If the plastic paint should prove wholly unsatisfactory, its removal, which would be necessary to prepare the wood surface properly for repainting, might be a very difficult and costly job.

All experiments on such new products should be done by commercial and industrial users only, who can afford to take risks, not by consumers. Until such time as products of this type are proved to be satisfactory, and are shown to have some merits which old-style

paints do not possess, our advice would be not to use them, with one possible exception, an exception however of decidedly unusual character. Such an exception *might* be in a case of fixing up a building having such bad paint that it cannot be repaired without undue expense and is to be patched up only to get through the present war emergency, with the expectation that it will be torn down or extensively renovated afterward.

As we go to press the St. Louis Better Business Bureau has exposed the false claims and poor performance of one of this class of products, which is known as *Lin-Tite Liquid Plastic*, "scientists' greatest development in protective coating,"

which was sold by shady and high-pressure methods in the St. Louis area. It was advertised as "guaranteed permanent" and it was claimed that it never blisters, cracks, chips, or peels, that it gives "everlasting beauty" and "complete protection," yet examination of a house to which this product was applied in August 1942 at a cost of \$410 disclosed the coating to be peeling and flaking in a number of places; in other places it had become powdery and was developing cracks.

It is interesting to note that a two-coat paint job by a reputable paint contractor for the same house could have been secured for \$175, or \$235 less than it cost to use *Lin-Tite*.

A New and Dangerous Wartime Food Adulterant

STATE officials in California have reported the use of a dangerous product called saccharic acid in commercially manufactured sherbets, ice cream, jams, jellies, carbonated beverages, vermouth, soda fountain juices and other products. It is typical of the use of adulterants that none of the firms using the material had endeavored to determine beforehand its wholesomeness or safety, yet all were using it in place of such tart substances as citric acid, tartaric acid, lactic acid and other such substances, which are exceedingly scarce at present, but were in wide use in normal times in various sweets and beverage products. When analyses were made, it was found that the saccharic acid itself was of a non-edible grade or quality, and was not only unstable in its composition, as shown by blow-

ing out of numerous heads of wooden barrels in which it was shipped, but contained toxic metallic contaminations (arsenic and lead) as well as hydrocyanic acid (one of the most poisonous of all chemical substances) and oxalic acid, also a very poisonous material.

There was a very obvious menace to health in the use of such materials as an acidifier for foods and beverages, many of which were of the sort much used by children. From the consumers' standpoint, the most important factor in the situation is its pointing up again the way in which manufacturers will buy and use a product for flavoring or adulteration of food, and then let later events determine whether the choice of the material was a wise one. (This has happened with copper salts and various coal tar

substances used in the dyeing and coloring of foods, with monochloroacetic acid and with diethylene glycol used as adulterants and preservatives in food manufacture, and in scores of other cases.) California is to be congratulated for the activity of its Bureau of Food and Drug Inspections in this case, for its analyses resulted in the quarantining of a total of over 5,000 gallons of saccharic acid, as also many thousands of gallons of vermouth, sherbet, carbonated beverages, and miscellaneous food substances, soda fountain syrups, etc., and 50,000 cases of jam. The Federal Food and Drug Administration, too, has proceeded in a number of cases against saccharic acid and has brought about seizures of quantities of the substance, and withdrawal from the market of other outstanding lots.

PHONOGRAPH RECORDS

By Walter F. Grueninger

Please Note: Prices quoted do not include taxes. In the ratings AA indicates highly recommended; A, recommended; B, intermediate; C, not recommended.

ORCHESTRA

Chausson: *Symphony in B Flat Major*. Chicago Symphony Orchestra under Stock. 8 sides, Victor Set 950. \$4.50. The composer's only symphony, played less frequently than his chamber works, is cast in a style akin to Franck's. A commendable recording from all points of view. Quiet surfaces.

Interpretation AA
Fidelity of Recording AA

Coates: *By the Sleepy Lagoon & Last Love*. Light Symphony Orchestra under Coates. 2 sides, Columbia 7408. \$1. Light concert numbers played under the composer. Very quiet surfaces. *Lagoon* is a re-issue, not a new release.

Interpretation AA
Fidelity of Recording A

Debussy: Selections from *Images*. San Francisco Symphony Orchestra under Monteux. 4 sides, Victor Set 954. \$2.50. The first and third *Images* are recorded here. The second is available in Victor Set 460, Victor Set G-10, and Columbia 491, none of which matches this one in recording and performance though the music is more often played. Quiet surfaces.

Interpretation AA
Fidelity of Recording AA

Dvorak: *Slavonic Dances* Nos. 1 & 3. St. Louis Symphony Orchestra under Golschmann. 2 sides, Victor 11-8566. \$1. Lively, robust, melodious concert favorites, played with less subtlety than I have heard but still thoroughly enjoyable. A part of one side swishes.

Interpretation A
Fidelity of Recording A

Haydn: *L'Isola Disabitata*. Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra under Sevitzy. 2 sides, Victor 11-8487. \$1. Little known overture in the tragic, romantic style. A welcome addition to the catalogue.

Interpretation A
Fidelity of Recording AA

Holst: Selections from *The Planets* (7 sides) Toronto Symphony Orchestra under MacMillan & Elgar: *Imperial March* (1 side). BBC Symphony Orchestra under Boult. Victor Set 929. \$4.50. Four of the seven tone poems which make up this admirable modern suite by the English composer Holst are presented here: *Mars*, *Venus*, *Mercury*, *Jupiter*. The filler is inconsequential. Surfaces are audible.

Interpretation A
Fidelity of Recording B

Tschaikowsky: *Solitude & Schumann:* *Traumerei*. All American Orchestra under Stokowski. 2 sides, Columbia 11982. \$1. Columbia's house organ, *Coda*, points out Stokowski has taken a song and a piano solo and "given them the typical Stokowski lush treatment," which is accurate and suggests one reason why I prefer the pre-Stokowski originals. Rather quiet surfaces.

Interpretation A
Fidelity of Recording B

INSTRUMENTAL

Bach: *Triple Fugue in E Flat Major* (St. Anne). Bonnet (organ). 2 sides, Victor 11-8528. \$1. Connoisseur item. Clear recording of the Hammond Museum Organ, Gloucester, Mass. Audible surfaces.

Interpretation A
Fidelity of Recording A

Enesco: *Roumanian Rhapsody No. 1*. Whittemore and Lowe (two pianos). 2 sides, Victor 11-8515. \$1. This clever transcription naturally lacks the color of the symphony orchestra on Victor 18201. A popular concert piece which stems from the folk music of Rumania.

Interpretation AA
Fidelity of Recording A

Liapounoff: *Lesghinka*. Brailowsky (piano). 2 sides, Victor 11-8567. \$1. A fast Caucasian dance programmed for technical display. Noisy surfaces, low-level recording.

Interpretation AA
Fidelity of Recording B

VOCAL

Tchesnokoff: *Save Thy People, O God & Gretchaninoff:* *Glory to Thee, O Lord*. General Platoff Don Cossack Chorus under Kostrukoff. 2 sides, Victor 11-8514. \$1. Religious selections featuring baritone solos.

Interpretation AA
Fidelity of Recording A

LIGHT, POPULAR, AND MISCELLANEOUS

Adamson-McHugh: *I Couldn't Sleep a Wink Last Night & Koehler-Arlen:* *Now I Know*. Shore (soprano). 2 sides, Victor 20-1562. 50c. The mixed choral backgrounds seem inappropriate.

Interpretation B
Fidelity of Recording AA

Archie-Burrows-Loesser: *Leave Us Face It & Van Heusen-Burke:* *Suddenly It's Spring*. Hildegard (soprano). 2 sides, Decca 23297. 75c. Popular ballads sung by Hildegard in her distinctive style. Noisy surfaces.

Interpretation AA
Fidelity of Recording A

Ellington-Russell: *Do Nothin' Till You Hear From Me & Burke-Symes:* *By the River of the Roses*. Woody Herman and His Orchestra. 2 sides, Decca 18578. 50c. Herman's singing holds no appeal for me but his band is first rate. Unfortunately Herman sings much of the time. Popular foxtrots.

Interpretation B
Fidelity of Recording AA

Green: *A Good Man Is Hard to Find & Homer:* *Bizet Has His Day*. Les Brown and His Orchestra. 2 sides, Columbia 36688. 50c. Dull, unimaginative performances of foxtrots of little consequence. *Good Man* is principally vocal, overside instrumental. Audible surfaces.

Interpretation B
Fidelity of Recording A

Hammerstein-Kern: *All the Things You Are*. Artie Shaw and His Orchestra & Tommy Dorsey and His Orchestra. 2 sides, Victor 20-1561. 50c. Two arrangements of the same song, with second rate vocals on both.

Interpretation A
Fidelity of Recording A

Jenkins: *The Prodigal Son & Acuff:* *Not a Word from Home*. Acuff and His Smoky Mountain Boys. 2 sides, Okeh 6716. 35c. Hillbilly numbers many city folks will label "Corn."

Interpretation A
Fidelity of Recording AA

McHugh-Adamson: *Don't Believe Everything You Dream & A Lovely Way to Spend an Evening*. Ink Spots. 2 sides, Decca 18583. 50c. Singing with piano, traps, guitar. The solo voice lacks refinement. Piano reproduction sounds wooden, but all else is clear. Slow foxtrots.

Interpretation B
Fidelity of Recording A

Simon-Bernier: *Poinciana & Jenkins:* *San Fernando Valley*. Crosby (baritone). 2 sides, Decca 18586. 50c. *Poinciana* is not one of Bing's happier interpretations but overside is first rate. Quiet surfaces.

Interpretation A
Fidelity of Recording AA

Williams-MacGregor: *It Must Be Jelly & Carter:* *Rainbow Rhapsody*. Glenn Miller & His Orchestra. 2 sides, Victor 20-1546. 50c. A fast foxtrot backed by a slow one, both good of their kind. The dynamic range of this recording is wider than most dance records.

Interpretation AA
Fidelity of Recording AA



Home Pressing of Clothes

WITH THE LIMITATIONS ON travel and delivery services imposed by gasoline and tire rationing, it is much less practicable or convenient to take one's clothes to a tailor or presser for pressing, cleaning, or repairing, and many find it necessary to care for their own clothing, in part at least.

According to manufacturers of fine woolen fabrics, too frequent cleansing and pressing does more to spoil their appearance than does ordinary wear; thus it is worth while to follow the few simple rules which, with little expenditure of time or effort, help to keep wool garments in good condition, and permit cleaning or pressing to be done at less frequent intervals than would otherwise be required.

As soon as they are removed, the coat and vest should be hung on a well-fitting hanger, padded if possible; pants preferably hung by the cuffs, or if hung folded, over a padded bar or a bar large enough not to form a crease; skirt hung by the belt. (This advice, of course, rules out the customary thin wire hangers, which tend to weaken a fabric by bending it too sharply.) After being well brushed and allowed to hang for a time in a good circulation of air to revive the wool fibres and evaporate all body moisture, the clothing is then hung away in a closet, which should not be too crowded.

For longest wear and best appearance, two or more suits should be worn in rotation;

this allows the fibres time to resume their normal length and elasticity, helps to raise the nap, remove wrinkles and restore the shape of the garment. An occasional sponging with a well-wrung sponge or lintless pad is also beneficial. Stroke with the straight of the goods and keep the dirt rinsed out of the sponge. Despite the best of care, an occasional pressing is necessary, but unless a garment has been thoroughly rain-soaked, a good job can be done by an amateur, with care and some experience whenever it is not practicable to take the work to a professional.

Equipment Needed

The padding of the ironing board should be no thicker than that used for general ironing; it should be smooth, and the cover as nearly lintless as possible. A well-padded sleeve board is a great help, but a roll of newspaper thickly and smoothly wrapped in a large bath towel (one which has not reached the shedding stage) can be made to serve. If a tailor's cushion for shoulders etc. is not available, a bath towel can be rolled and used instead. For pressing trousers, some like a smooth unpadded board of the right size to slip readily inside a trouser leg. This will probably be found only in a tailor's supply shop.

For a professional-looking job, a man's good-quality suit brush, the long flat kind, will be useful. A tailor uses a hardwood clapper to set the crease

in the trouser legs and sleeves.

For the proper pressing of woolen suits, a presscloth of heavy cotton drill or closely woven unbleached cotton is a necessity, and can be bought in a department store, either by the yard or as a pinked-edged cloth chemically-treated to render it non-absorbent, about 12 in. by 30 in. (Some stores also sell tailors' cushions and clappers.) A thinner cloth of medium-weight muslin, about 12 in. by 15 in., is useful for shrinking in baggy knees, backs of skirts, elbows, etc. A woolen presscloth although not absolutely essential, will help preserve the new look of woollens and also remove slight shine; this should be fast color and all wool if possible—a little cotton is permissible, but nylon or rayon are not for they will melt out and spoil the article being pressed. This wool cloth should be about the same size as the drill cloth, but a smaller piece can be used. Provided the nap of the fabric is still in good condition, it may be a length of an old wool skirt or coat which has been washed and dried smoothly, or pressed and the nap brushed up. If a new piece is bought, it should be sponged and pressed with a clean old cloth to ascertain if its color is fast. The wool presscloth is used only on wool material; it is applied underneath the cotton presscloth.

An iron of medium weight and size will do good work; be sure the soleplate is smooth. A steam iron makes unnecessary



Fig. 1—Pressing upper part of trousers.

the use of a sponge or folded cloth for dampening the presscloth. If your iron has no temperature regulator, watch its temperature carefully. The drill presscloth will stand a rather hot iron without scorching, but most other materials will not. Linen will stand slightly less heat than cotton; for wool, silk, nylon and some kinds of rayon the heat must be moderate; for some rayons the heat must be even lower.

Pressing Wool Clothes in General

Notice the details of pressing in a suit when new or when freshly hand-pressed by an expert workman, for details of pressing change from time to time and are not the same for all styles of suits; e.g., sleeves and lapels may be creased or not, etc. Before pressing, the garment should be well brushed, especially insides of pockets and under seams, where accumulations of dust, sand or grit cause wear and provide breeding places for moths. All spots and stains should be removed before pressing, as they may be permanently set by heat.

Pressing of a wool garment should not be literally pressing, but steaming. Especially is this true of the heavier tailor-made clothes, which must be treated carefully in order not to change the shaping put in by the tailor,

as in the collar, shoulders and hips of a coat.

A good rule is to leave strictly alone any *shaping seams* (seams at collar, lapel, armhole, hips, etc.). Press almost to them but never let these seams feel the steam. Never press a curve flat—arrange it over the edge

of the board or shape a bath towel into a cushion and ease the iron over it. Slide the iron with the straight, or grain, of the goods. Keep the iron moving, patting the goods rather than pressing, as the pressure put on the iron may leave its impression, which is hard to eradicate.

Always work from a stitched edge toward the great open spaces to avoid wrinkles along the seam—such wrinkling is a mark of the novice. The dampness of the presscloth should be suited to the thickness of the goods being pressed. Only steam, not water, should penetrate to the garment.

The wool presscloth, which is used under the drill presscloth, is not itself dampened; it serves to protect the garment against water-spotting, but more important, its fibres interlock with those of the wool surface being pressed, raising the nap and thus helping to remove shine and to preserve the new look of the goods. Slip pieces of thin cardboard under pocket flaps and between hem thicknesses etc., and strips of thick wrapping-paper under seams and pockets to prevent outlines showing on the surfaces being pressed. Areas where there is trapunto, sou-

tache, etc. on a woman's coat are usually placed right side down on a soft pad and steamed from the wrong side with little or no pressure. Never press a wool garment dry, as this induces shrinkage and makes the garment limp and lifeless looking. The presscloth is pressed till nearly dry, but if one continues beyond that point, the wool fabric will be given a gloss or shine.

If the garment has very shiny places, try sponging with a vinegar solution or a weak solution of soap (e.g., 1 level teaspoonful of *Lux* flakes to a gallon of water). (However, the



Fig. 2—Method of shrinking baggy knee.

shine will usually return in a few days' wear.) Or a very fine grade of emery cloth may be used, but rub carefully lest it wear the fibre unduly.

Pressing a Man's Suit

Pressing a man's suit is a typical pressing operation. Draw the top of the pants smoothly over the end of the ironing board being sure to pull out the pockets to prevent their outlines from being transferred to the surface of the cloth. Lay the wool presscloth on the garment and the drill presscloth on the wool presscloth. Dampen the drill presscloth evenly with a sponge, then lightly and quickly slide the iron over it. Flip

both cloths back and quickly brush out the steam with the clothes brush, always stroking with the straight of the goods. (See Fig. 1.) Turn the trousers and repeat until finished.

If the knees are baggy, lay the pants legs on the ironing board with the front crease uppermost. (See Fig. 2.) Slip inside the leg under the bulge, the unpadded board or a heavy cardboard. Dampen the light muslin cloth and wring well, spread it over the bulge, and move the iron over it lightly with a circular motion until the bulge has been shrunk in. The cloth may need to be dampened several times.

Finally, lay the trousers on the ironing board with the legs

or heavy fabric.) Hang the trousers by the cuffs to dry.

In pressing a coat, start with the sleeves. If the sleeve is not to be creased, slip it over the sleeveboard, start at the underarm seam and press it all around, taking care not to twist the sleeve as you turn it, for that would spoil its "hang." If no sleeveboard is available, use instead the roll of newspaper and towel, and do not press too near the edge. Arrange a creased sleeve flat on the ironing board, the crease about an inch in front of the forward seam, a piece of cardboard between the hems, and press the outside only, avoiding the buttons.

In pressing the body of the coat, start with the left front below the breast pocket and work up toward the collar; then under the arm, working downward, pressing the hip on the edge

of the board to preserve the curve. Next press the back, and finally the right front, drawing the coat toward you as you work.

Arrange a rolled lapel on the board (as in Fig. 4) with the notch toward you, pressing lightly away from you to about an inch below where the collar crease begins. Lay the collar on the edge

of the board and press lightly, creasing to one inch below the notch unless the lapel is creased, in which case collar and lapel form an unbroken line.

To crease a lapel, fold from the top button to the collar crease and press from the inside; do not pull because any stretching of this bias edge will result in a bulge. Place a tailor's cushion or folded bath towel under the shoulder seam (Fig. 5) and press lightly almost to the seam. Then round the pad a little and hold it in the top of the sleeve, easing the iron gently over it but *never* touching the armhole seam. Avoid pressing wrinkles into the lining as you work. Hang the coat on a padded hanger to dry.



Fig. 4—Pressing the lapel of a coat.



Fig. 3—Pressing in the creases.

together, and fold the top leg back out of the way. Lay the lower leg flat by matching together the seams, or by using the old creases as a guide. Press the leg, beginning at the crotch; heavy materials usually require pressing on both sides, while light materials need be pressed on one side only. Finally, press in the creases (Fig. 3), either on the ironing board, or on the unpadded board if a truly knife-edged effect is desired. (Such a crease is undesirable from the standpoint of fabric life, particularly with a thick



Fig. 5—Pressing upper part of sleeve of a coat using tailor's pad or cushion inside.



Fig. 6—Pressing a skirt. Pleats are held in place with pins.

Pressing a Skirt

To press a skirt, pull it over the ironing board, with the belt at the small end of the board. Press the placket flap if it needs it. Next press the back panel, first shrinking any bulge in the

seat in the manner described for shrinking baggy knees of pants. Press all plain panels, working from belt to hem. Pleats should be done last; pin them to the ironing board, catching them from underneath, so that no pin impressions will be pressed on the goods. (See Fig. 6.) If preferred, pleats may be basted in place. If the skirt is cut on the bias, use extra care in placing it on the board, because pulling will stretch a bias seam. Work diagonally on the board in order to follow the straight of the goods. Hang free by

the belt until the garment is dry.

Points to Remember

1. Be sure you have the proper pressing equipment needed for a workmanlike job.
2. Inspect a newly purchased or freshly hand-pressed suit for details to be copied when doing the pressing job at home.
3. Never press a wool garment dry; it's the steam that does the work.
4. Hang a freshly pressed garment on a hanger to dry thoroughly before putting it away in the closet.
5. Be careful that your pressing iron does not get too hot.

SAVE

YOUR ANTI-FREEZE

THE INDUSTRY Advisory Committee of the War Production Board is again stressing the importance of saving and storing present radiator contents for re-use for the 1944-45 winter season, to conserve supplies of scarce anti-freeze materials.

If your radiator contains the ethylene glycol type or ethanol (denatured alcohol), its contents should be drained into a low pan or bucket and then transferred to clean glass gallon jugs or clean oil cans of large size, tightly corked, labeled carefully with the brand and origin of the product, and the date of its removal from the car. Containers of both ethylene glycol and denatured

alcohol should be labeled POISON. If the intermediate container used to catch the liquid is one that is to be put to other household uses, it must be washed with the greatest care to remove any trace of oil and of ethylene glycol or denatured alcohol, which are both poisonous. If metal cans are used for storage, extra care must be taken to store them in a dry location. A can may rust through in any case, but setting the base of a can on a dry wooden shelf or board well off the ground would tend to reduce the likelihood of rusting through and loss of contents.

Before re-use next season, the stored anti-freeze will require

the addition of a "corrosion inhibitor," and in some cases, a small amount of an alkali such as sodium carbonate to neutralize acidity; these details will be discussed at the appropriate time next fall. After removal of the anti-freeze, the cooling system of the car should be thoroughly flushed out with water, then refilled with clean water to which has been added 1 ounce of sodium chromate (or 1 ounce of sodium dichromate plus 1/3 oz. of sodium hydroxide [lye; dangerous caustic; handle with extreme care, especially to protect the eyes and skin]). This should be left in the radiator until it is drained for refilling with anti-freeze in the fall.

Repairing Electric Appliance Cords

IT IS NOT AN easy matter today to obtain repair services and parts on electrical appliances, as those who have tried have learned, to their regret. When the appliance is an essential one, there is a great temptation for the man of the house to attempt to fix it himself or to turn it over to a friend or relative known to be handy with tools. This procedure is often fraught with risk; the appliance or cord may be left in a defective condition so that it presents a potential shock or fire hazard, which may only be discovered after it is too late. It is a relatively simple matter to repair an electric appliance cord, following standardized methods of procedure, but there are many ways to do the job wrong and the householder may easily make some error involving fire- or shock-hazard.

Those who have occasion to repair electric cords in their home and are uncertain as to correct procedure to follow would find it helpful to obtain the leaflet Number AWI-20, How to Make Your Electric Cords Last Longer, 5c, from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. The leaflet gives instructions, with large clear illustrations, on replacing appliance and outlet plugs.

For schools, adult training groups, or other groups interested in this subject and in teaching consumer skills, a set of 6 posters, entitled, Repair Your Electric Cords, is available for 30c the set from the Superintendent of Documents. The posters give essentially the same information as the leaflet

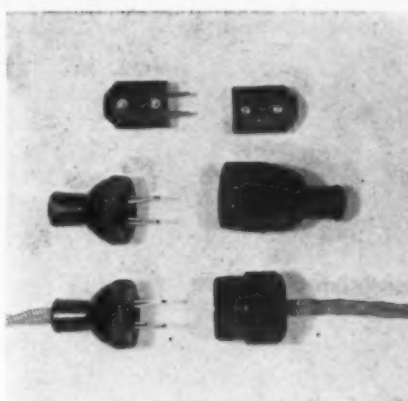


Figure 1

Three different types of connectors, one of which should be used, instead of splicing, for connecting broken or damaged flexible cords. The top one, which is small and flat, will often be the most suitable for use in the home. It is important in installing such connecting devices that the plug ends (shown at the left) be wired in every case to the end of the broken cord that is toward the appliance or lamp—never to the part of the cord which connects to the live socket outlet or receptacle. If this rule is not followed, the connector, if accidentally or intentionally opened, would expose projecting plug terminals that are electrically alive with full voltage; there would then be an extremely serious fire and shock hazard, particularly menacing if children are about.

but have more illustrations and a minimum of text.

Certain exceptions must be taken to the information given in the leaflet and posters referred to, for some of the methods illustrated and described do not comply with requirements of the Underwriters' National Electrical Code. This code, which is the official control over quality and character of electric wiring in property protected by insurance, prohibits the splicing of flexible cord, whereas the leaflet and posters show the consumer how to repair an electric extension cord by splicing broken or damaged wires. No doubt the au-

thors of these directions have recommended splicing in the belief that, under wartime conditions which for a time made electric wire of all sorts almost unobtainable, such a repair on an extension cord might be justified. Actually, splicing of flexible electric cords is both unwise and unnecessary, for an extension cord with a spliced joint involves a distinct fire hazard and also the possibility of serious injury through a burn or electric shock, particularly where children may be playing.

Splicing can be avoided, for efficient and safe connecting devices, such as that shown in Fig. 1, are readily available in dime stores and electrical appliance stores. Failure of flexible cords at any point except near the appliance connector is usually due to misuse; either the cords are too long, permitting kinking, or they have become frayed from abrasion, or become caught under a door or are abused in some other way. As soon as an extension cord or appliance cord shows any signs of fraying, it should be wrapped with friction tape, or if that is not available, with ordinary adhesive tape.

There would seem also to be no reason for the omission of the Underwriters' knot (which is shown in Fig. 2) from these bulletins. Use of that knot is required (unless replaced by a suitable alternative device) in all fittings, plugs, etc., that are subject to tension, in order that the tension will not be transmitted to joints or terminal screws, and thereby possibly bring about separation of electrically connected parts,

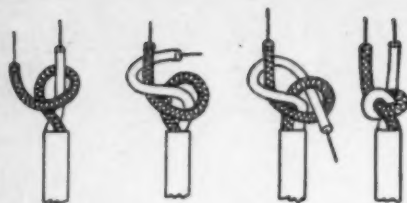


Figure 2

with the possibility even of a short circuit causing a shock or fire.

Another valuable pamphlet is Household Equipment, Better Use and Care, available from the Household Finance Corp., 919 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago 11, at 5 cents each, in stamps, to cover mailing costs. This pamphlet, which discusses fuses and all major household

electrical appliances, including radio, contains a section on electric cords; the directions given for replacing and repairing cords are well presented (a better job than in the government leaflet and chart) and there are some good illustrations. The Household Finance pamphlet recommends the use of the Underwriters' knot when the nature of the cord and plug permit it, and gives a diagram illustrating it; it does not, however, give detailed information on rewiring asbestos-covered type of flexible cord, so-called "heater cord," of the type used on electric irons, which rather frequently needs reconnection or replacement.

A New Trick in Radio Tube Selling

THERE ARE many rackets and gyms in the radio trade. A new one that has grown up through the scarcity of labor and other factors that limit earnings in the radio servicing business under wartime conditions penalizes the consumer who needs a new tube for his set, when nothing but replacement of one or more worn-out or weak tubes is required to put the radio into first-class operating condition.

Some servicemen are refusing to sell tubes except to a customer who brings his radio into the shop; the customer is then required to pay a service charge of \$1, supposedly as an overhead or handling cost for inspecting and working with the set. That is, of course, a way of charging the consumer

a dollar extra on the tube, and since radio men under present shortage conditions are able to sell all the tubes of certain types which they can get their hands on, many have adopted some expedient or excuse for charging higher prices for tubes than they did when tubes were plentiful. Anyone who is asked to pay extra for tubes in this way or on some other basis which seems devious or appears to verge on the fraudulent, will do well to notify the radio man that if his charge is insisted upon, notification will be sent to the local Better Business Bureau so that they may add the serviceman's name to their file of firms reported as using unfair or coercive methods to step up the price of radio tubes or service.

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† indicates that brand listings are included.
* indicates articles that appear each month in the Bulletin.

Ratings of Motion Pictures



This section aims to give critical consumers a digest of opinion from a number of reviews, ranging from the motion picture trade press to Parents' Magazine, which rates motion pictures not only on their quality as entertainment but on their suitability in various aspects for children.

It should be emphasized that the motion picture ratings which follow do not represent the judgment of a single person but are based on an analysis of the reviews appearing in some 20 different periodicals. (See January 1944 issue for sources of the reviews.)

The figures preceding the title of the picture indicate the number of critics who have been judged to rate the film A (recommended), B (intermediate), and C (not recommended).

Audience suitability is indicated by "A" for adults, "Y" for young people (14-18), and "C" for children, at the end of each line.

Descriptive abbreviations are as follows:

adv—adventure	mus—musical
biog—biography	mys—mystery
car—cartoon	nov—dramatization of a novel
com—comedy	rom—romance
cri—crime and capture of criminals	soc—social-problem drama
doc—documentary	t—in technicolor
dr—drama	trav—travelogue
fan—fantasy	war—dealing with the lives of people in wartime
hist—founded on historical incident	wes—western
mel—melodrama	

A	B	C		
—	3	2	Action in Arabia	war-mel AYC
—	2	1	Adventure in Blackmail	com A
—	1	6	Adventure in Iraq	war-mel A
—	4	6	Adventures of a Rookie	war-com AYC
—	—	—	Adventures of Tartu (See Tartu)	
—	9	—	Ali Baba and the 40 Thieves	mel-t AYC
—	1	8	Always a Bridesmaid	mus-com AYC
—	6	2	Around the World	war-mus-com AYC
—	1	2	Avenging Rider, The	wes AYC
—	3	4	Beautiful But Broke	mus-com AYC
—	2	3	Beyond the Last Frontier	wes AYC
—	3	3	Billy the Kid in Cattle Stampede	wes AYC
—	4	1	Billy the Kid in the Renegade	wes AYC
—	6	—	Black Hills Express	wes AYC
—	2	4	Black Market Rustlers	mus-wes AYC
—	5	1	Blazing Guns	wes AYC
—	4	3	Bridge of San Luis Rey	dr AYC
—	4	1	Broadway Rhythm	mus-com-t AYC
—	1	2	Bullets and Saddles	wes AYC
—	3	—	California Joe	wes-dr A
—	8	2	Calling Dr. Death	mys-mel A
—	2	4	Campus Rhythm	mus-com AYC
—	2	4	Canyon City	wes AYC
—	8	—	Career Girl	mus-com A
—	4	5	Casanova in Burlesque	mus-com A
—	6	3	Chance of a Lifetime	cri-mel AYC
—	3	5	Charlie Chan in the Secret Service	cri-mys AYC
—	5	—	Chip Off the Old Block	mus-com AYC
—	1	2	City That Stopped Hitler, The	war-doc A
—	5	13	Claudia	com A
—	3	2	Coastal Command	war-dr AYC
—	3	12	Corvette K-225	war-mel AYC
—	2	6	Courageous Mr. Penn	hist-dr AYC
—	1	3	Cover Girl	mus-com-t A
—	3	3	Cowboy in the Clouds	war-mel AYC
—	10	5	Crazy House	mus-com AYC

A	B	C		
—	3	2	Crime Doctor's Strangest Case	cri-mel A
—	11	6	Cross of Lorraine, The	war-mel A
—	3	5	Cry Havoc	war-dr A
—	—	5	Curse of the Cat People, The	mys-mel A
—	7	5	Dancing Masters, The	com AYC
—	9	1	Dangerous Blondes	cri-com A
—	1	3	Death Rides the Plains	wes AYC
—	1	2	Death Valley Manhunt	wes AYC
—	1	4	Death Valley Rangers	wes AYC
—	2	5	Deerslayer	adv AYC
—	2	7	Desert Song, The	war-mus-mel-t A
—	9	4	Destination, Tokyo	war-dr AYC
—	1	10	Destroyer	war-mel AYC
—	3	2	Devil Riders	wes AYC
—	5	5	Doughboys in Ireland	mus-com AYC
—	1	7	Drums of Fu Manchu	mel AYC
—	3	1	Escape to Danger	war-mel A
—	6	4	Falcon and the Co-eds, The	cri-mys AY
—	2	2	Falcon Out West, The	cri-mys A
—	1	13	Fallen Sparrow, The	war-mys A
—	6	1	False Colors	wes AYC
—	2	5	Fighting Seabeats, The	war-mel AYC
—	3	2	Fighting Valley	mus-wes AYC
—	1	7	Find the Blackmailer	mys-mel A
—	1	5	Fired Wife	com A
—	3	10	Flesh and Fantasy	dr A
—	—	6	Follies Girl	mus-com A
—	1	3	Footlight Glamour	com A
—	9	2	Frontier Badmen	wes AYC
—	10	5	Gang's All Here, The	mus-com-t A
—	6	4	Gangway for Tomorrow	war-dr-propaganda A
—	3	7	Ghost Ship, The	mel A
—	1	3	Ghost That Walks Alone	cri-com A
—	1	7	Gildersleeve on Broadway	com A
—	1	14	Girl Crazy	mus-com AYC
—	5	2	Girl from Monterey, The	mus-com AY
—	3	—	Going My Way	mus-dr AYC
—	2	7	Good Fellows, The	com AYC
—	6	9	Government Girl	war-com A
—	4	4	Great Mr. Handel, The	mus-biog-t AYC
—	8	7	Guadalcanal Diary	war-dr AY
—	4	8	Gung Ho	war-dr A
—	1	10	Guy Named Joe, A	war-dr A
—	3	3	Hail to the Rangers	mus-wes AYC
—	2	6	Hands Across the Border	mus-wes AYC
—	4	10	Happy Land	war-dr AYC
—	3	4	Harvest Melody	mus-com AYC
—	2	2	Hat-Check Honey	mus-com AYC
—	4	11	Heat's On, The	mus-com A
—	4	3	Heavenly Body, The	com A
—	2	5	Henry Aldrich, Boy Scout	com AYC
—	1	5	Henry Aldrich Haunts a House	com AYC
—	7	1	Here Comes Elmer	mus-com A
—	3	4	Here Comes Kelly	com AY
—	11	7	Hi Diddle Diddle	war-mus-com A
—	3	4	Hi 'Ya Sailor	mus-com A
—	15	3	Higher and Higher	mus-com A
—	1	14	His Butler's Sister	mus-dr AYC
—	3	14	Holy Matrimony	nov-com A
—	4	5	Honeymoon Lodge	mus-com A
—	5	1	Hoosier Holiday	war-mus-com AYC
—	1	7	Hostages	war-nov A
—	2	1	Hot Rhythm	mus-com AYC
—	2	2	Hour Before Dawn, The	war-dr AYC
—	4	2	Imposter, The	war-dr A
—	11	4	In Old Oklahoma	mus-dr A
—	6	4	In Our Time	war-dr AYC
—	1	11	Iron Major, The	biog AYC
—	2	6	Is Everybody Happy?	war-mus-dr AYC
—	1	3	Isle of Forgotten Sins	adv A
—	4	3	It Happened in Gibraltar	war-mel A

A	B	C		
—	7	4	Jack London.....	biog A
4	11	2	Jane Eyre.....	nov A
1	5	1	Jeannie.....	rom AYC
—	4	3	Jive Junction.....	mus-dr AYC
2	12	3	Johnny Come Lately.....	dr AY
—	—	8	Klondike Kate.....	mel A
—	4	1	Knickerbocker Holiday.....	mus-com AYC
1	10	2	Lady in the Dark.....	mus-com-t A
—	5	—	Lady, Let's Dance.....	mus-com AYC
—	15	2	Lady Takes a Chance, A.....	com A
—	2	8	Larceny With Music.....	mus-com A
8	8	2	Lassie Come Home.....	nov-t AYC
—	3	3	Law Rides Again, The.....	wes AYC
2	1	—	Life and Death of Col. Blimp.....	war-dr A
5	8	2	Lifeboat.....	war-dr A
—	11	4	Lodger, The.....	cri-mel A
—	3	2	Lone Star Trail, The.....	wes AYC
3	9	—	Lost Angel.....	com AYC
—	3	8	Mad Ghoul, The.....	cri-mel A
11	7	—	Madame Curie.....	biog AYC
—	9	6	Man from Down Under, The.....	war-mel A
1	8	1	Man from Music Mountain.....	mus-wes AYC
—	2	3	Man from Rio Grande, The.....	wes AYC
—	3	—	Man from Thunder River.....	wes AYC
—	5	3	Melody Parade.....	mus-com AYC
—	1	3	Men on Her Mind.....	mus-dr A
—	2	4	Million Dollar Kid.....	com A
—	3	5	Minesweeper.....	war-mel AYC
2	7	6	Miracle of Morgan's Creek, The.....	com A
—	5	3	Moonlight in Vermont.....	mus-com AYC
—	2	5	Mr. Mugs Steps Out.....	cri-com AYC
—	11	3	My Kingdom for a Cook.....	com A
—	6	4	Mystery Broadcast.....	mys A
—	3	6	Mystery of the 13th Guest, The.....	mys-mel A
—	—	4	Nabonga.....	mel AYC
—	4	1	Navy Way, The.....	war-mel AYC
—	3	5	Nearly Eighteen.....	mus-com A
—	5	2	Never a Dull Moment.....	mus-com AYC
—	2	1	Nine Girls.....	cri-mys A
—	3	2	No Greater Love.....	war-dr A
2	14	2	No Time for Love.....	com A
1	6	2	None Shall Escape.....	war-mel A
4	10	4	North Star, The.....	war-dr-propaganda A
—	8	9	Northern Pursuit.....	war-mel AYC
—	2	6	O, My Darling Clementine.....	mus-com A
1	11	5	Old Acquaintance.....	dr A
—	1	2	Outlaws of Stampede Pass.....	wes AYC
—	4	2	Overland Mail Robbery.....	wes AYC
—	7	3	Paris After Dark.....	war-mel A
—	6	7	Passage to Marseille.....	war-mel A
—	3	3	Passport to Adventure.....	war-com A
—	5	3	Passport to Suez.....	war-mys AYC
—	1	9	Petticoat Larceny.....	cri-mel A
2	10	1	Phantom Lady.....	mys-mel A
3	11	4	Phantom of the Opera.....	mus-dr-t A
—	4	6	Pistol Packin' Mama.....	mus-wes A
—	4	1	Pride of the Plains.....	wes AYC
1	14	—	Princess O'Rourke.....	rom AYC
1	3	—	Purple Heart, The.....	war-dr A
—	2	4	Racket Man, The.....	cri-mel AYC
—	3	—	Raiders of Sunset Pass.....	wes AYC
—	3	3	Raiders of the Border.....	wes AYC
—	2	4	Rationing.....	com AYC
—	2	2	Return of the Rangers.....	mus-wes AYC
—	5	3	Return of the Vampire.....	mys-mel A
—	7	—	Revenge of the Zombies.....	war-mel A
—	3	4	Riders of the Deadline.....	wes AYC
—	2	4	Riders of the Rio Grande.....	wes AYC
—	11	7	Riding High.....	mus-com-t A
—	4	2	Robin Hood of the Range.....	mus-wes AYC
—	4	4	Rookies in Burma.....	war-com AYC
5	13	—	Sahara.....	war-dr AYC
—	—	3	Sailor's Holiday.....	war-com A

A	B	C		
—	1	5	Saint Meets the Tiger, The.....	cri-mel AYC
—	1	7	Scream in the Dark, A.....	mys A
—	6	—	See Here, Private Hargrove.....	war-com AYC
—	—	12	Seventh Victim, The.....	mys-mel A
8	8	—	Shadow of a Doubt.....	cri-dr A
1	6	4	Sherlock Holmes Faces Death.....	cri-mel AYC
—	3	4	She's for Me.....	mus-com A
—	2	1	Shine On, Harvest Moon.....	mus-biog AYC
2	2	2	Shrine of Victory, The.....	war-doc AYC
—	3	3	Silver City Raiders.....	wes AYC
—	4	3	Silver Spurs.....	mus-wes AYC
—	2	4	Sing a Jingle.....	mus-com AYC
—	3	—	Six-Gun Gospel.....	wes AYC
—	11	7	Sky's the Limit, The.....	war-mus-com AYC
—	2	6	Sleepy Lagoon.....	mus-dr AYC
—	2	4	Smart Guy.....	cri-dr A
—	1	8	So This Is Washington.....	war-com AYC
—	6	5	Son of Dracula.....	mel A
8	4	—	Song of Bernadette, The.....	dr AYC
1	9	4	Song of Russia.....	war-dr AYC
—	5	5	So's Your Uncle.....	com AYC
—	8	3	Spider Woman.....	cri-mel A
—	8	2	Spotlight Scandals.....	mus-com A
—	11	3	Standing Room Only.....	war-com A
—	3	6	Strange Death of Adolph Hitler, The.....	war-mel A
3	9	—	Sullivans, The.....	war-dr AYC
—	3	6	Sultan's Daughter, The.....	mus-com A
—	2	5	Suspected Person.....	mys A
—	3	—	Sweethearts of U.S.A.....	mus-com AYC
2	13	2	Sweet Rosie O'Grady.....	mus-com-t A
—	3	7	Swing Fever.....	mus-com A
—	3	5	Swing Out the Blues.....	mus-com AYC
—	2	8	Swingtime Johnny.....	mus-com A
—	11	6	Tartu.....	war-mel A
—	4	7	Tarzan's Desert Mystery.....	war-adv AYC
2	4	3	Tender Comrade.....	war-dr A
—	3	3	Texas Kid, The.....	wes AYC
—	4	—	Texas Masquerade.....	wes AYC
2	7	6	Thank Your Lucky Stars.....	mus-com AYC
—	9	1	There's Something About a Soldier.....	war-com AYC
—	—	—	Thirteenth Guest (See Mystery of)	
—	2	1	This Is the Life.....	rom AYC
6	12	—	Thousands Cheer.....	war-mus-t AYC
—	3	6	Three Russian Girls.....	war-dr AYC
—	1	6	Tiger Fangs.....	war-mel AYC
—	2	5	Timber Queen.....	mel AYC
1	10	3	Top Man.....	war-mus-com AYC
—	4	5	Tornado.....	mel A
—	12	4	True to Life.....	mus-dr AYC
—	3	2	Uncensored.....	war-mel A
—	1	5	Underdog, The.....	mel AYC
—	12	3	Uninvited, The.....	mys-mel A
1	8	2	Unknown Guest, The.....	mel A
1	8	1	Up in Arms.....	war-mus-com-t A
3	8	2	Victory Through Air Power.....	car-propaganda-t AYC
—	2	1	Vigilantes Ride, The.....	mus-wes AYC
1	1	3	Voice in the Wind.....	war-dr A
—	5	—	Voodoo Man, The.....	mys-mel A
—	3	2	Wagon Tracks West.....	wes AYC
—	2	3	Weekend Pass.....	war-mus-com AYC
—	1	2	West of Texas.....	mus-wes AYC
—	2	4	West Side Kid, The.....	cri-mel A
—	2	1	Westward Bound.....	wes AYC
—	9	8	We've Never Been Licked.....	war-mel AYC
—	2	5	What a Man!.....	com A
—	13	2	What a Woman!.....	com A
—	6	7	Where Are Your Children?.....	mel A
—	3	2	Whispering Footsteps.....	mys-mel A
—	5	3	Whistling in Brooklyn.....	cri-com AYC
—	6	8	Wintertime.....	mus-com AYC
1	9	—	Woman of the Town, The.....	mus-wes A
—	5	1	Women in Bondage.....	war-dr A
—	5	—	You Can't Ration Love.....	mus-com AYC
—	2	1	Young Man's Fancy, A.....	com A

The Consumers' Observation Post

[Continued from page 4]

METHYL METHACRYLATE RESIN is a mouth-filling chemical term for a plastic much used in the making of dentures. It appears from the investigations of the Anti-trust Division of the Department of Justice that this material can be sold to commercial users (of large quantities) at 85 cents a pound but the same material (sold in smaller amounts) for dental use is priced at \$45 a pound. When members of the dental profession learned that there was no difference except price in the two different "grades" of material they began to purchase the commercial grade. Thereupon it seems the two companies that had the plastic for sale made plans to add a small amount of some adulterant such as arsenic to the commercial grade to render it unfit for use by the dental operators. The practice is rightly under attack as a monopolistic effort to maintain high prices; fair and honest pricing will be based not upon the use to which materials are to be put, but on their composition, purity, and other measurable or significant properties.

* * *

BEEF AND BUTTER are reported to be plentiful and unrestricted in Mexican cities, according to a Texas newspaper. Even so, those Americans who live just across the border in the United States are not permitted to go shopping in Mexico and bring back supplies of such foods without giving up ration stamps at the border. It appears that the original idea of rationing as a method and technique for distributing scarce supplies in this country was not taken seriously by those who administer the rationing, for there are a number of practices which make it evident that it has an additional purpose, of mortifying the flesh or modifying present food and consumption habits. Incidentally, Mexicans who wish to purchase meat in the U. S. may do so, and are given ration points for the purpose.

* * *

SUBSTITUTE FOR RATIONED JAMS AND JELLIES. Prunes cooked thoroughly in very little water and put through a food mill will provide an excellent spread for bread or crackers; the prune puree is also good mixed with peanut butter. If the family has a very sweet tooth, a little sugar may be added to the prunes in cooking. A few dates added before cooking would be another way to increase the sweetness. Both fruits should be seeded before they are put through the ricer or food mill for best results. Caution: in such concentrated form the prune jam, if eaten too freely, may have a pronounced laxative effect.

* * *

FAR MORE SOAP CHIPS AND SOAP FLAKES are used by the average person than is required for the usual washing job. In these times when soap is scarce and may



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become even more difficult to buy in the needed quantities, it is sound policy to use flake or chip soap according to directions, in the quantity and manner specified. Usually, it is estimated about one-quarter more soap is used than is actually needed for the job. For laundry purposes, the standard lather should measure about 3 inches in height; for other types of washing somewhat less will serve well enough.

* * *

NEW PRODUCTS: Snap-on Screen Patches, 6 for 25c, for patching small holes in screens are usually available in five-and-dime stores. They are made of non-ferrous metal, and are of a "dark bronze" color. A brief test indicates that these screen patches will probably show satisfactory freedom from corrosion in service.

The hot-water bottle, a household standby, is again making its appearance in the variety chain stores, inexpensively priced. Three hot-water bottles of the "victory grade," one as sold in drugstores and priced at \$1, and two from 10-cent stores, were tested. All three proved to be of low quality so far as rubber was concerned, and they deteriorated rapidly from heat, being adversely affected by a prolonged hot-water test to about twice the degree the best pre-war hot-water bottles were. Of the three, Flamingo, No. 27 (B. F. Goodrich Co.), \$1, was the best. While slightly under capacity, it was well made and its wall was of sufficient thickness. Hygrade Dependable, No. 16 (Goodyear Rubber Sundries, Inc.), 25c, and Matchless, No. 24A (Goodyear Rubber Sundries, Inc.), 25c, despite their names, had poor resistance to hot water. The rubber in the wall of the Matchless was below standard thickness. The wall of the Hygrade Dependable had one decidedly thin spot, indicating poor control or poor workmanship, or both.

Dixie Food Packs--Lunch Box Combination consists of a light-weight corrugated cardboard lunch box containing 12 half-pint and 15 quarter-pint containers with "snap-on, bend-off" covers, also 15 one and three-quarter oz. containers with lids. The price is 79c and the outfit may be ordered direct from Dixie Cup Co., Easton, Pa., if it is not available locally. Opinions might differ as to the practicability of the cardboard luncheon box, but there is no doubt that the food containers are handy for packing types of food that will afford a change from sandwiches, and they are lighter to carry than small Mason or other glass jars. The cost for convenience in this respect will run to about 2c per container; the containers after use may be disposed of in the trash basket and so need not be carried home.

convenient subscription blank

To CONSUMERS' RESEARCH, INC., WASHINGTON, NEW JERSEY

Please check one:

- ☐ I enclose \$4 (Canada & foreign, \$4.50) for one year's subscription to Consumers' Research Bulletin monthly (12 issues) AND the 1944-45 Annual Cumulative Bulletin when it is issued.
- ☐ I enclose \$3 (Canada & foreign, \$3.50) for one year's subscription to Consumers' Research Bulletin monthly (12 issues).
- ☐ I enclose \$2.50 (Canada & foreign, \$2.75) for a subscription to the 1944-45 Annual Cumulative Bulletin alone.
- ☐ I enclose \$1.00 (Canada & foreign, \$1.25) for a copy of the 1944-45 Annual Cumulative Bulletin when it is issued. Since I am a subscriber to Consumers' Research Bulletin, I am entitled to the special rate.

It is understood that my handling of any CR material which is marked "The analyses of commodities, products, or merchandise appearing in this issue of the Consumers' Research Bulletin are for the sole information of Consumers' Research subscribers" will be in accordance with that direction.

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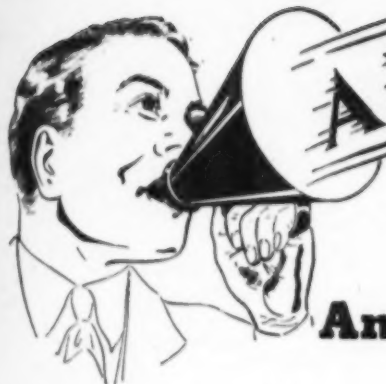
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ANNOUNCING

CR's

Annual Cumulative Bulletin for 1944-45!

*It's coming back,
we're glad to say.*

JUST ABOUT A YEAR AGO, Consumers' Research announced in May 1943 that the rapidity and uncertainty of the changes taking place in consumers' goods made it desirable to forego the issuance of the 1943-44 *Annual Cumulative Bulletin*, and instead to increase the regular Bulletin schedule to provide monthly issues throughout the year to keep consumers constantly posted on changes as they occurred.

Subscribers' reactions indicate that they like the monthly Bulletin idea, but some have expressed their need for an *Annual Cumulative Bulletin* summarizing CR's findings in one handy, compact volume. Others have said that they have found the *Annual Cumulative Bulletin* most useful and would like to be able to subscribe to that alone.

This year we are changing the schedule in an effort to please everybody. There will be an *Annual Cumulative Bulletin* again, to be issued on or about September 1, 1944, if unavoidable shortages of personnel and the crowded time of research and editorial workers permit, and if the printer is able to meet the production schedule. At any rate a new 1944-45 *Annual Cumulative Bulletin* will appear sometime this year, AND we are planning to issue 12 monthly Bulletins as well.

Here is the subscription schedule reflecting the new arrangement:

Yearly subscription (12 issues)	\$3.00
(Canada and foreign \$3.50)	
Yearly subscription (12 issues) PLUS	
the Annual Cumulative Bulletin	\$4.00
(Canada and foreign \$4.50)	
Annual Cumulative Bulletin (without	
subscription to the monthly Bul-	
letin)	\$2.50
Annual Cumulative Bulletin for	
CURRENT SUBSCRIBERS	
<i>Special Rate</i>	\$1.00

Since the *Annual Cumulative Bulletin* is available only for the use of the individual subscriber and members of his immediate family, we regret to say that we cannot accept orders for it from libraries, organizations, business concerns, schools, and col-

leges. There is, however, no confidential restriction on the monthly issues and, at present, all of these are available for school and organization use.

Because of the paper shortage and CR's shortage of help (many of our editorial and technical staff are in the Services or in war work of a technical nature), the *Annual Cumulative Bulletin* will be limited to about 160 pages. In that space, we expect to give you significant information that is currently available on **Food, Medicine and Hygiene, Textiles and Clothing, Household Appliances, Equipment and Supplies** with special emphasis on care and repair, **Cosmetics, Heating Equipment and Fuel, Automobiles and Accessories** with special emphasis on maintenance and repair, **Radio Sets, Cameras, House Maintenance and Repair, Building, and Plumbing**. The book will be new throughout, with fresh material and new methods of treatment. It will provide an indispensable compendium of information for the consumer both in wartime and during the period immediately after the close of hostilities.

The task of getting out the *Annual Cumulative Bulletin* with a limited staff, and the monthly issues for July, August, and September, when we used to concentrate all our facilities on the final editorial work of the *Cumulative Bulletin* will not be easy and we need your help.

❑ Please don't expect to have us handle your special inquiries during this period in the detail that you and we both would wish were possible; where correspondence is necessary, be prepared for a very brief answer, usually on a postcard.

❑ Please tell your friends about the new forthcoming *Annual Cumulative Bulletin* that will be issued as a supplement to the September Bulletin. Call to their attention the desirability of subscribing now, for, if orders are received in a continuous flow between now and September, we shall be able to handle them in orderly fashion so that there will be no peak load that would necessarily cause delay in getting copies mailed to some readers.

❑ We hope that you will approve our new Bulletin schedule, and that you will give it your heartiest support.

Buy! **WAR**
and **BONDS**
STAMPS